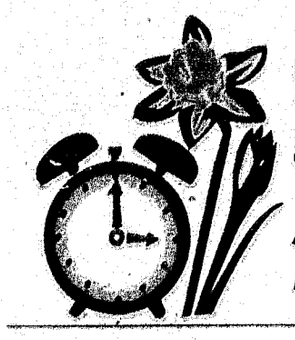
MAR 10 2016



Don't forget to spring ahead this weekend!

Also be sure to check the batteries in your smoke detectors.

Sid Pew to run for House 117

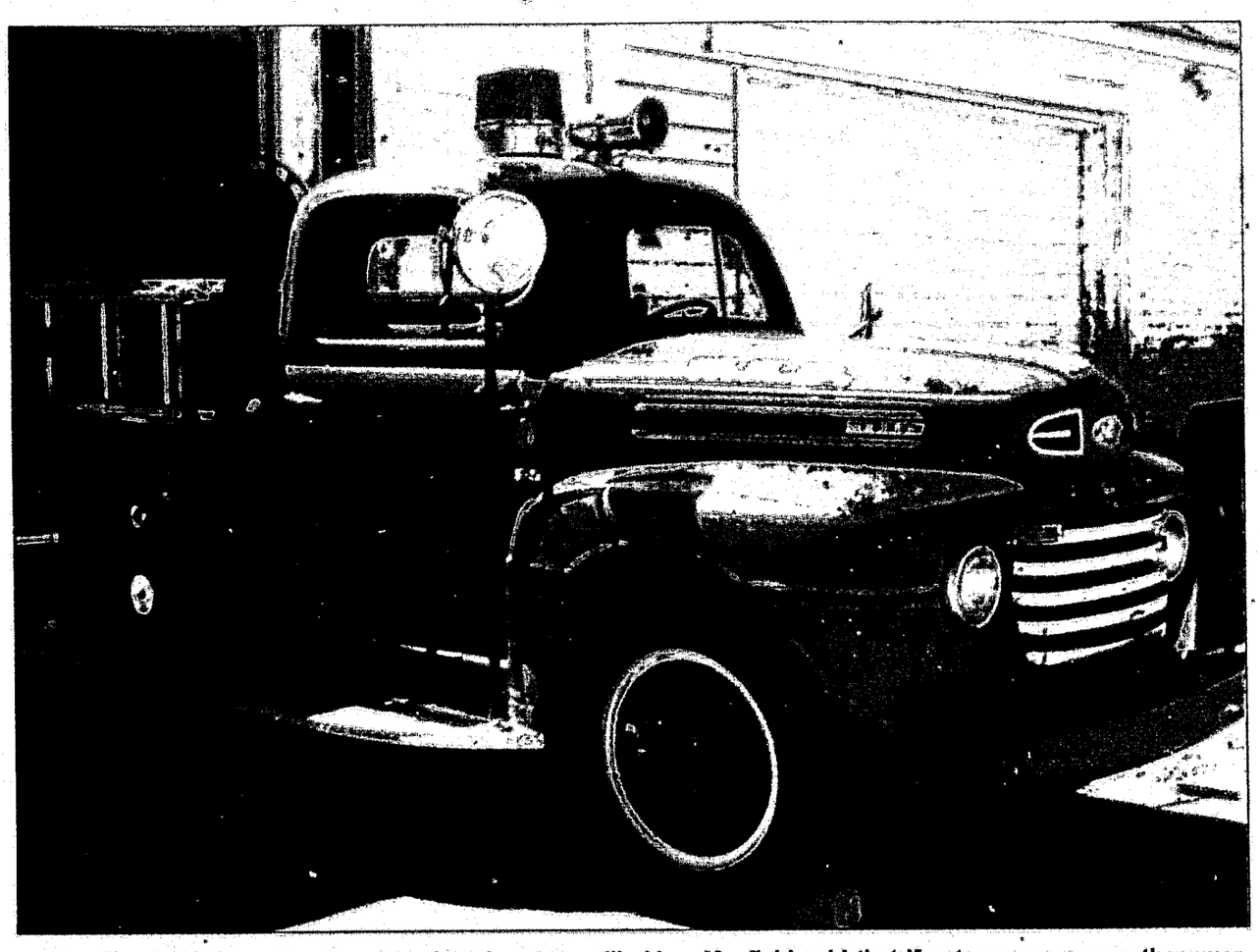
> Page 5

The Bethel Citizen

Vol. CXXI - No. 10 | Thursday • March 10, 2016 | 90¢ a Copy

Serving Bethel and neighboring communities in the mountains of western Maine

Should this fire truck be saved?



At the March 28 Town Meeting, Woodstock voters will decide whether to raise $2,000 to repair the engine of the Fire Department 's 1948 pumper truck. It would be used for parades and other similar events. The truck was the first truck purchased new for the WFD, according to town officials, and it has sentimental value for retired firefighters and other older residents. Town Manager Vern Maxfield said that if voters approve another question on the warrant - whether to purchase the old Maine Department of Transportation garage on Route 232 - the town would have a place to park the truck so it does not take up space in the fire station. If residents do not wish to keep the truck, another warrant article asks if it should be sold by sealed bid. *Submitted photo*

Andover Town Meeting:

'Alternative form of government' question returns

By ALISON ALOISIO

When Andover residents gather for their annual Town Meeting March 19, they will consider whether to form a volunteer panel to research an alternative form of government for the town.

Options could include a town manager or administrative assistant.

Such a change has been rejected in the past, but Selectman Jane Rich said last week it may be worthwhile to have another look.

Rich, who also served on the board in the late 1970s and 1980s, said the selectmen's responsibilities have become significantly more time consuming, particularly the assessing portion of it.

"Fewer people want to run for office, or are familiar enough to do it," she said.

Regarding the assessment responsibilities, Rich said that in decades past, Andover had about 600 parcels of property to assess, and today it is 950.

She also said with the turnover on the board, there is not as much continuity of knowledge as in the past.

Besides updating and maintain assessing files, she said, there is also generally more paperwork required of the board and the town than in the past.

She said she personally favors expanding the current job of secretary to the board to an administrative assistant, in order to handle more of the non-assessing-related work load.

The warrant article on the issue asks if voters wish to establish a committee to research the options.

REVALUATION

Voters will also revisit the issue of property revaluation, for which the town has been raising money annually in recent years. They will be asked to raise and or appropriate $10,000 for the revaluation account, which if approved would bring the total in the account to $63,000, Rich said.

The town has also jointly applied with Woodstock and Greenwood for a revaluation grant, but will not get a response until April 1, she said. Andover's share would be about

See ANDOVER, Page 3

Oil has stopped flowing in Portland-Montreal Pipe Line

The oil pipeline that runs through Bethel, Albany, Gilead and Waterford and annually pays tens of thousands of dollars in taxes to those towns has shut down, according to a report in the Associated Press.

The 236-mile-long pipeline has carried foreign crude oil from the Port of Portland to refineries in Montreal for 75 years.

The flow dropped to zero in January, according to state data, and a ship chandler in Portland says the pipeline had no tanker deliveries in February.

The amount of oil flowing through the pipeline has been dwindling for years, and the completion last fall of a major pipeline reversal project in Canada has left the pipeline of no use. The refineries in Quebec now get their oil from the vast oil sands reserves in Alberta.

"There is no need to move crude oil from Portland to Montreal. That is a permanent change," said John Auers, executive vice president of Turner, Mason & Co., a Dallas petroleum industry consulting firm.

If oil ever again moves through the pipeline, Auers said, it probably will be going the other way, bringing tar sands oil from western Canada and North Dakota to Portland Harbor for delivery to refineries on the East Coast and overseas.

While the pipeline could be repurposed to carry other petroleum products, such as natural gas, the most obvious use is to deliver crude oil to a seaport, said Sandy Fielden, director of energy analytics with RBN Energy, a Texas consulting firm.

The decision in December by Congress to lift the 40-year ban on exports of domestic oil has made reversing the flow of the pipeline more likely, he said.

See PMPL, Page 3

'Women in Maine Skiing 1870-2016' program

By WENDE GRAY

In recognition of Women's History Month, the Ski Museum of Maine and the Bethel Historical Society will present "Sisters of Skade: Women in Maine Skiing 1870-2016" at the Bethel Inn Resort on Saturday, March 26, at 4:30 p.m.

Skade is an ancient Norse goddess who is closely associated with hunting, mountains, winter and skiing. The program is free and open to the general public.

The program comprises two parts. Scott Andrews, the Ski Museum's research director, will give a PowerPoint talk on the subject of women in Maine skiing from its inception in the late 19th century through the present day. The talk includes historic photos, ranging from recreational skiers to competitive champions.

The first part of the talk will look at ordinary women who made a major, positive impact on the sport via traditional women's roles. By contrast, the latter part of the talk will recount some of the world's most extraordinary athletes and their connection to Maine.

One highlight of the talk will be Maine's role in advancing the cause of women's ski jumping. It was a topic that generated headlines and lawsuits in the

See SKI, Page 3

Newry OKs road, fiscal year change

By AMY WIGHT CHAPMAN

At Newry's annual town meeting Monday, about 45 voters passed all 46 articles on the warrant.

In the largest municipal expenditure of the evening, they authorized the selectmen to issue a road bond in an amount not to exceed $850,000 for paving and improvements to the Sunday River Road.

The section to be paved is between the intersection with the Monkey Brook Road and the road project that was completed in 2015 near Letter S on the Sunday River.

In a previous warrant article, voters had approved taking $150,000 from the Capital Improvement Account for paving on the Sunday River Road.

In discussion of the earlier article, CEO Dave Bonney said that amount would allow paving from the Monkey Brook Road to the covered bridge. If voters then approved the bond article, he said, the work could be extended as far as the Letter S project.

Town Administrator Amy Bernard said the $150,000 that voters had previously approved would serve as a down payment.

She said the term of the bond would be five to seven years, and officials would research to find the best interest rate and repayment terms.

FISCAL YEAR CHANGE

In a non-binding advisory vote, residents gave selectmen the go-ahead to change the town's fiscal year from the current calendar year to a July 1 to June 30 fiscal year, bringing it in line with that of the school district and the state of Maine.

Maine statute gives boards of selectmen the authority to make the change without a town vote, but officials said they thought it was important to bring it before residents for discussion.

If the change is adopted next year, the transition will result in residents receiving two tax bills, one for the first six months of 2017, and another for the new fiscal year, running from July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018.

Selectman Jim Largess said the switch would alleviate the town's cash flow problem, because current-

See NEWRY, Page 3

BETHEL REC DEPARTMENT

2016 Baseball & Softball Registration

1 child = $25 ~ Family (2 or more) = $35

IF REGISTERED BY APRIL 3

REGISTER ONLINE: www.bethelmaine.org

or visit the town office to complete a registration form.

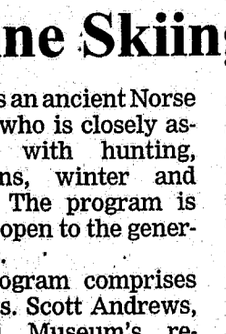
Questions? Contact the Rec Director at 824-2669, or e-mail Skip at bethelbaseball@gmail.com

A skills assessment will be held at Telstar Gym for all players 7'-12. Players should bring their glove.

**Players that have completed one year of T-ball should also attend.*

Softball Assessments
Monday, March 28:
Ages 7-9: 5:30-6:30 ~ Ages 10-12 6:45-7:45

Baseball Assessments
Tuesday, March 29:
Ages 7-9: 5:30-6:30 ~ Ages 10-12 6:45-7:45



Rotary Country Breakfast

Gould Academy
Ordway Dining Hall
Sunday, March 13
7:30-11am
All-You-Can-Eat Buffet to benefit Scholarships & Community Projects.
Adults $8 ($10 at the door)
Under 12 - $5
www.bethelrotary.org

Becky Shaw Ski Day
at Mt. Abram
Thursday, March 10
Jewel & Donnie
in the lounge at 3pm!

$2 drafts & 1/2 price Appetizers - Every Day, 4-6pm

The Millbrook Tavern & Grille
Open daily at 4pm for appetizers & cocktails, 5pm-9pm for dinner. Open Fri & Sat for lunch. Pool Table, Dart Boards & Game Room.

Hearty Breakfast Buffet
Start your day with our hearty country breakfast buffet, served daily in our Main Dining Room.
Now taking reservations for Easter Brunch!

$5 Deal Night	Live Music	Mexican Night
Tuesday - **$5 Burger Night** Wednesday - **$5 Pizza Night** ** Dine in only*	*7pm to late night* **Friday:** Shawn Tooley **Saturday:** Denny Breau	Fajitas & 'Ritas... over 30 entrees! **Next week, 3/17** it's Mexican Night – *St. Patrick's Day Style!!*

March 19th– Fly Fishing Film Tour followed by The Elmore Twist Band!

The Bethel Inn Resort 1913 MAINE
ON THE COMMON
824-2175
WWW.BETHELINN.COM

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ads@bethelcitizen.com
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Letters

DEMOCRATS THANKS

To the Editor:

A huge 'thank you' goes out from the Oxford County Democrats to the Town Clerks for the wonderful help with our Telstar caucus on March 6, and for their help with validating and notarizing nominating petitions.

Our towns in the Bethel Citizen coverage, as well as throughout the county, are so fortunate to have such excellent employees! A special 'thank you' to the Telstar High School custodial staff for their work to make our set-up work so well.

We would like to extend a special invitation to those who came to caucus for the first time, and all Dems, to attend our post-caucus planning meeting on Sunday, March 13 at 2 p.m at Crescent Park School. Visit our Facebook page for details https://www.facebook.com/OxfordCountyDems/

Cathy Newell
Greenwood

COOKIE THANKS AND SALE

To the Editor:

Thank you to everyone who has ordered Girl Scout cookies this year and in past years. This year we have over 30 girls participating in Girl Scouting in the Bethel area, Daisy's are grades K-1, Brownies grade 2-3 and Juniors grade 4-5. The Girl Scout program offers girls an opportunity to discover, connect and take action within their families, the girl scout troop, their community and beyond.

This year we are planning to have an outdoor skills education day and a camping overnight involving all three troops. The brownie troop is currently working with the Crescent Park Library to have a book mobile that features books that have strong, empowered girl/women as the main characters. The Daisy troop made blankets and donated donate to the Barbara Bush Children's Hospital. The Junior troop performed an energy audit at Crescent Park School , had a guest speaker Levi Brown, Principal and made recommendations to make the school more energy conscious. The Browine and Junior Troops made Valentines cards for the hospice patients at the hospice houses across the state. We have many more adventures ahead of us this year.

We will be having a COOKIE BOOTH SALE on March 13, 2016 at the Sunday River Brewing Company and Restaurant from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. or until we sell out of cookies. Please come out and support these great group of girls and pick up something sweet. All varieties of cookies available. If you can't make it out on Sunday please contact Haley Tripp.

Haley Tripp
Bethel

SCIENCE FAIR, WAX MUSEUM, EDDY OPEN HOUSE

To the Editor:

We are fortunate to have many wonderful educational opportunities in our area.

On Tuesday, March 15, three events were planned, two of which have since been rescheduled in order to allow all of you to attend all of them. Telstar Middle School hosting a science fair from 5-7 p.m. on Tuesday, March 15.

Crescent Park is hosting the 5th grade Wax Museum at on Thursday, March 17 from 1-2:15 and 6-7 p.m.

The Eddy School has moved its Admissions Open House to Monday, March 14, 4:30-6:30. Come on Monday to visit with current and past Eddy School families, see the school, ask questions, pick up admissions materials and experience yet another educational opportunity we have in our area. (Come to learn about us even if you do not have children of middle school age!)

Then be sure to attend the Science Fair on Tuesday and the Wax Museum on Thursday.

Hope to see you at all of these events!

Deb Webster
Director, The Eddy School

CORRECTION

BROTHER WAS HIS TEACHER-Last week's story on donuts at the Sunday River Brewing Co. should have also included that Mitch Cooper "learned everything he knows" on donutmaking from his brother.

CORRECTION

GILEAD TOWN MEETING-Last week's list of March Town Meetings should have included Gilead, which is March 26 at 7 p.m. at the Town Hall.

The Bethel Citizen

PO Box 109 • Bethel, ME 04217 • 207-824-2444

Edward M. Snook *Publisher*
Nancy Forest *Production/ Sales Manager*
Amy Chapman *Reporter*
Carri Frechette *Customer Service*
Alison Aloisio *Editor*
Tatum Rosenberg *Production Assistant*

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Deadline for town, club and organizational news items is Monday at 4 p.m. **Advertising deadlines:** Real Estate and half page ads or larger: Friday, Noon. Display and Classified ads: Monday at 4 p.m.

Advertisers should check their advertisements. The paper shall not be liable for failure to publish an advertisement, nor for a typographical error, or errors in publication except to the extent of the cost of the advertisement for the first time insertion. The paper will reprint that part of any advertisement in which an error occurs.

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Let us know if you have an address change!
Call (207) 824-2444

ATTEND TRANSPORTATION MEETING

To the Editor:

A needs survey conducted late last year indicated that transportation is a key concern for those living in the Bethel area who wish to remain in their homes as they get older. In response to the survey, an Age-Friendly Transportation meeting is to be held this afternoon (Thursday) from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Bethel Congregational Church.

The meeting will feature a panel discussion of the types of transportation options that might be afforded to those requiring transportation as well as an opportunity for the public to express its interest and concerns regarding expanding the transportation capabilities in the region.

The meeting is open to all who are interested in transportation. I am looking forward to seeing you later today!

Allen Cressy
Bethel

BACC AWARD NOMINATIONS SOUGHT

To the Editor:

For the 47th consecutive year, the Bethel Area Chamber of Commerce is planning our awards dinner and celebration to recognize community and business excellence. We are seeking nominations from you, the members of our communities and businesses, for our various awards. Nominations must be submitted by Monday, April 4 and can either be sent to the chamber at P.O. Box 1247, Bethel, ME 04217, delivered to our office, or e-mailed to info@bethelmaine.com. We also ask that nominators be present at the event on Friday, May 6 to accompany the recipient. We will be holding the dinner for the first time at Mt. Abram Ski Area and we are excited about the new venue! Details related to the dinner menu and making reservations will be released in the next weeks.

We have many categories. Business of the Year, Henry H. Hastings Award for Citizenship, Lifetime Achievement Award, Bethel Area Non-Profit Leadership Award, Forest Products Industry Award, Public Service Award (typically goes to someone working in municipal governments or committees), Rising Star Entrepreneur Award, We also have four Employee of the Year Awards: Ski Industry, Service & Retail, Education & Hospitality and these should be nominated by the employers. A selection committee will be meeting and we will be announcing the award recipients by mid-late April.

At this wonderful celebration, we also present two Citizenship Awards to high school seniors who are chosen by the staff of Telstar HS and we provide the forum to present the SkiEsta Scholarships. There is an application process for the SkiEsta awards that will be explained in a separate letter to the editor.

We would like to recognize and thank the business sponsors are partnering with us to ensure a great event: Signature Sponsor, Franklin Savings Bank; Banquet Sponsor, Oxford Casino; Award Sponsor, Northeast Bank and Social Hour Sponsor, Oxford Networks. We are seeking donations for our live and silent auctions – which has been a terrific addition to the event. Please call us!

Many thanks for taking the time to nominate those who are outstanding in our communities and work places.

Robin Zinchuk
Executive Director

DOLLARS TO DONUTS

To the Editor:

I have been a fan of Dunkin' Donuts for as long as I can remember. As I've travelled the road, I've stopped even when I didn't know I wanted a cup of coffee. I've also loved their doughnuts but I remember a time when doughnuts were really doughnuts. I haven't had a real doughnut for a very long time.

But then, the Sunday River Brew Pub shows up with doughnuts ... and when I say doughnuts ... Oh boy! Do I mean doughnuts. If any of you remember the kind of doughnuts I'm talking about, make a stop and try the Sunday River Doughnut! You would have to have been born a fairly long time ago to know what I'm talking about. And I'm sure we can all agree that I really don't need any doughnuts but oh my, don't I love them. Folks, do yourself a favor. Try 'em.

Harry Faulkner
Bethel

VOTER FRUSTRATION

To the Editor:

It's true that Washington is broken, but America needs to take a deep breath.

During the past seven years, the U.S. Constitution has been under siege by President Obama. Much has been said about his refusal to act appropriately on domestic affairs and crime, tax policy, monetary policy, downsizing government, support for the military, support for law enforcement, inner city crime, good paying jobs, lagging education, health care cost and availability, race relationships, job killing regulations, foreign affairs, national defense, international respect, illegal immigration and terrorism. Surely a FAILED Presidency.

That all sounds dramatic enough to wonder how the voters could possibly have elected Obama for a second unsuccessful four-year term ... but it happened!

President Obama's noted failures had surely existed for years before President Obama promised to bring HOPE to voting Americans. Most often, his actions exasperated an already shameful situation related to the imbalance and misuse of power.

Now, in 2016, American voters are asked to choose between two inappropriate Democrats or the winner of the GOP battle for supremacy. To assume that Trump or Hillary Clinton would provide solutions to the nation's problems is merely wishful thinking ... hoping for instant gratification.

Electing self-absorbed individuals will only exasperate the current situation. We need an untarnished visionary candidate who will focus their first term on dynamic activities with the 50 state governors to downsize the federal government and implement realistic reforms for state controlled government functions empowered by the U.S. Constitution (Tenth Amendment). These actions, however difficult, will reenergize our country. If states rights are properly addressed, major changes in the U.S. Congress will follow.

Len Greaney
Rumford

From the Bethel Town Manager's Office

By Christine M. Landes

As always, it is my pleasure to provide this bi-weekly column for the citizens of Bethel.

What a crazy couple of weeks it has been. The budget numbers were finalized and sent out to the Budget Committee last week. On March 15, and possibly the 17, the committee and the Board of Selectmen will review line by line and make recommendations for the annual town meeting in June. A lot of municipal departments have decreases in their budgets, with only a couple showing increases due to pay proposals, equipment, and utilities. Of course, we can always expect employee benefits and municipal insurances to rise each year.

The largest proposed increase at the municipal level is the Capital Improvement Plan. Until we get a system of equipment replacement on track with reserve monies set aside, it means we fund the whole cost at once for the purchase/upgrade/project. This year we are asking for the funding of a replacement ambulance for our service, at a cost of approximately $180,000. This unit should have been replaced two years ago. Also, in addition to road treatments, we are looking for Cole Block upgrades, a well and septic at the transfer station, a calcium tank set up for Public Works along with a proposal to purchase an equipment trailer for the department.

As a reminder the Route 2 Bridge resurfacing project will be starting the week of March 14. Please be patient with the traffic problems that may arise the first few weeks. The plan is to conduct an assessment with the stop times so an adjustment on the timed lights can be addressed, if needed. It will be a long summer of stop and go traffic in that area, but when the project is completed the bridge should be good for another 50+ years.

The Sewer Fees Committee is still in the process of refining the proposed sewer rate. Once the number is finalized it will go to the Board of Selectmen for review and approval to move ahead with a Public Hearing. Each user on the system will receive a notice of the hearing once a date is set. After the hearing, the Board will decide if they will approve or disapprove the rate structure. Stay tuned for more updates.

Please remember if there is anything I, or the employees of the town, can do for you please do not hesitate to contact us. We are here for you.

Our Back Pages

By Danna Brown Nickerson

10 years ago: DiAnne Ward and "Danube" of Albany won the 2006 Maine Dressage Fourth Level Championship.

Stan Howe spoke on "The History of the Grange" at a meeting of the Woodstock Historical Society.

Deaths: Donald A. Johnson, Gerald A. Billings, Margaret C. Bean, Martha S. Day, Freeman Ellingwood, Robert H. Day, Sr.

20 years ago: Edie Okenquist opened a bagel shop at the corner of Main and Philbrook streets.

Gould Academy's girls' varsity ski team won the New England Prep Schools Alpine Ski Championships.

Deaths: Edwards W. Allen, Ernest J. Curtis, Olive M. Elliott, Theresa C. Martin, Janna Libby Roseberry, Marjorie D. Chase.

30 years ago: A fire destroyed the home of Mary Cole in Gilead.

The Bethel Service Corp., a subsidiary of the Bethel Savings Bank, had signed a contract with Mr. and Mrs. Murray Thurston to purchase the Barn Motel (now River View Resort).

Birth: Lauren Shepard Brooks.

Deaths: Donald James, Mrs. Thirza E. Gibson, Mrs. Henrietta A. Stetson.

40 years ago: The Bethel Rotary Club sponsored Kids' Day Snow Races as part of Bethel's winter carnival.

Gould Academy defeated Hodgdon 57-52 to win the state Class "D" basketball championship.

Birth: Tyrel Robert Bartholomew.

Deaths: Cora Farwell Sherwood, Stephen Sciaraffa.

50 years ago: Miss Gayla Farrow of Bryant Pond was crowned queen of Bethel's Second Annual Winter Carnival.

Andy Davis, Wayne Davis, David Keniston, Steve Blake, Danny Vogt, Terry Wilson, Chris Bailey, Lincoln Fiske, and Craig Walker were awarded letters at a banquet honoring CPS basketball players and cheerleaders.

Birth: Tamara Lynn Baker.

Death: Roy O. Brown.

60 years ago: Andover citizens voted an appropriation of $500 to repair the covered bridge at South Andover.

The Newry town meeting was well attended. More than 50 enjoyed the dinner served by the Ladies' Circle.

Birth: Dorene Laurie Proctor.

Death: Emil Pulkkinen.

70 years ago: It was voted at Bethel's annual town meeting to discontinue the section of Summer Street between Elm and Church streets. The pay of the Selectmen and Road Commissioner was raised to $6 and $7 a day, respectively.

A New Hampshire snow plow was in Newry opening blocked roads.

Deaths: Mrs. Florence Merrill, Walter S. Millett.

80 years ago: There was a widespread freshet. The center of Bear River Bridge at Newry Corner dropped a foot and a half, and water rose to the floor of the steel bridge over the Androscoggin. Families were removed from their homes by boat.

Members of Boy Scout Troop 165 participated in a vehicle lighting survey conducted simultaneously throughout the state.

Death: Mrs. Mae Louise Bolster.

90 years ago: Arthur E. Herrick and Leslie Davis joined the Ford special train at Boston and went to Detroit where they were guests of the Ford Motor Company.

110 years ago:

The gentlemen of Alder River Grange served an oyster stew supper in the new hall.

Deaths: Miss Emily E. Holt, Mrs. Ransom Cummings.

MAR 10 2016

Andover

Continued from page 1

$30,000.

The total cost of a revaluation, said Rich, is about $80,000, at a cost of $85 a parcel for the 950 parcels.

CEMETERY

Residents will also be asked to approve a $250 charge to people purchasing cemetery lots, to cover the cost of four corner stones as required by cemetery policy.

Customers have not been voluntarily complying with the requirement after purchasing a lot, according the warrant.

Rich said the lack of corner stones leads to mistakes locating lots.

On another cemetery-related article, residents will be asked to approve $2,500 in legal fees for town representaion in Probate Court to gain access to the Cemetery Trust Account.

Rich said that years ago a perpetual care fund was established, but the families involved "are long gone," and the funds could be used for cemetery maintenance. There was $45,063 in the account at the end of 2015, according to town officials.

Another article asks if residents wish to change the current tax billing cycle of once a year to twice a year, in order to improve the cash flow, Rich said.

Under discussion for a future year is changing the calendar fiscal year to match the school fiscal year of July 1-June 30. That change, she said, would also help cash flow and generally be less confusing.

On another fiscal-year related topic, Rich noted that with Andover's increased school budget as a result of withdrawing from SAD 44, taxpayers will this year feel the full impact of that increase.

Last year's tax bill reflected only the initial six months of the higher school tax. The current mil rate is 19.6, she said. Last year it was 15.6.

FIRE DEPT., SURPLUS, RAISES

Fire department articles to be considered include $11,500 for the purchase of protective equipment for firefighters. Rich said the current gear, including suits, is out of date and newer models are required by regulations.

Fire Chief Justin Tibbetts has worked out a replacement schedule to spread the costs over a period of years, she said.

Fire Department operations are proposed at $36,680, an increase of about $5,000 over last year. Rich said the increase is not attributable to one particular cost, but a combination.

Other articles to be considered include;

Selling by bid the East Andover Fire Station property;

Using money in Surplus over $140,000 for tax reduction (there is currently $222,611 in the account);

Giving town employees 3 percent raises;

Providing the town treasurer with income protection and life insurance, to bring her in line with other regular part time employees;

Approving $500 for the disposal of 30 boxes of old confidential material at the Town Office.

The selectboard has not yet calculated the bottom line for this year's municipal budget, if all the money warrant articles are approved. Rich estimated it would be a minimal increase.

The Town Meeting starts at 9 a.m. at the Town Hall.

ELECTIONS

In municipal elections, to be held Tuesday, March 22, Leo Camire and Sharon Hutchins are running for a three-year term as selectman, to fill the seat of retiring Selectman Keith Farmington, Rich said.

For the School Board, incumbent Lindsay Sharkey is running for re-election, according to Town Clerk Melinda Averill, but incumbent Linda Putnam Presby is not.

No one else took out papers for that seat, Averill said. Both seats are for three-year terms.

Ski

Continued from page 1

early 2000s when advocates tried to convince the International Olympic Committee to include women's jumping in the Winter Games. The women were repeatedly rebuffed by the IOC until they finally earned their right to jump in the 2014 Sochi Olympics.

Andrews notes that a long and tortuous road preceded that landmark event. One of the early positive milestones was the International Women's Ski Jumping Championships, hosted by Maine's oldest ski club and held in Rumford in 1996. One of those 1996 competitors later emerged as the principal voice for women's ski jumping; still later, she was one of the American women who jumped in Sochi.

The second part of the program will be a panel discussion featuring women leaders — both past and present — in several fields of the sport and industry of skiing. Panelists will include Olympic skier Julie Parisien, Snowboard Cross Champion Nikki Pilavakis-Davoren and Leslie Miller Morrill, cross country ski champion. Women ski industry speakers will include Barbara Schneider, Executive Director of Maine Adaptive Sports and Recreation, Megan Roberts, General Manager of Titcomb Mountain, and Leigh Breidenbach, Director, Former UMF Industries Program.

The program is being made possible by the support of women-owned businesses in the Bethel area: Carter's Cross Country Ski Shops & Centers, The Halsted Agency, Mahoosuc Realty, Maine Street Realty, Mountain Real Estate, Pooh Corner Farm, Royal River Graphics, Ruthie's & Bethel Village Motel, Tourmaline Media, and the brokers of Sunday River Real Estate.

Those attending the program may rent cross country ski equipment and ski for half price at Carter's Cross Country Ski Center and the Bethel Inn XC Ski Center on Saturday and Sunday.

For more information on the program call 207-824-2908.

Women skiers at Pleasant Mountain in the 1940s. *Submitted photo*

Newry

.Continued from page 1

Sixteen Newry voters opposed continuing to offer a 2 percent discount on taxes paid within 30 days of billing, but the article passed by a five-vote margin. *A. Wight CHapman*

ly taxes are not paid until well into the fiscal year.

"We raise the money tonight, but we don't send the bills out until August," he said.

"So for the [first] seven months, we're spending money we don't have. We're dipping into last year's reserves—that's where the cash flow problem comes from."

TAX DISCOUNT

Although many of the articles on the warrant prompted some discussion, most ultimately passed without opposition.

One exception was an article to continue the long-standing practice of allowing a 2 percent discount on property taxes paid within 30 days of the billing date, which town officials had recommended against.

The article generated 20 minutes of explanation and discussion before being passed by a 21 to 16 vote.

Bernard said the discount costs the town about $52,000 a year and creates additional work for the town office staff.

About 70 percent of those who pay their taxes within 30 days neglect to deduct the discount, she said. To avoid refunding the 2 percent, the clerks must set up new accounts to credit the overpayment to the next year's tax bill.

But those who favored the discount said it gives taxpayers an incentive not to wait to pay their taxes, lessening what has become an annual cash flow problem for the town.

CABLE TV FEES

Voters agreed to turn over the total amount of 2016 cable franchise fees received from Time Warner for use by Western Hills Access Television, the local public access station, rather than placing a portion into the general fund.

Bernard said the amount of franchise fees collected in 2015 amounted to about $12,000.

MT. EXPLORER

Unlike last year, when they cut the amount by 25 percent, voters approved the full request of $10,000 for the Mountain Explorer bus service.

Mountain Explorer committee member Pat Roma said the service tries to rely on funding from local businesses, but was forced to dip into its reserves to meet operating costs.

Among other expenditures, residents placed $10,000 in a reserve account to build a Newry Veterans Memorial at the municipal complex.

They approved the use of $7,500 from the Forest Fire Reserve account to outfit a truck given to the town by the state with equipment to fight forest fires.

The meeting lasted nearly two and a half hours.

ELECTIONS

In elections Monday, Selectman Gary Wight and School Director Whitney Gray were returned to office unopposed.

PMPL

Continued from page 1

The city of South Portland, where the pipeline ends, has banned the export of oil through the city because of environmental concerns.

Environmentalists say tar sands oil has greater greenhouse gas emissions and is more corrosive so it could leak from the pipeline.

The Portland Pipeline Corp. has sued the city in federal court. The lawsuit is still pending.

The company declined to comment.

"Nothing is going to flow until this court case is resolved," said Mark Usinger, a Portland ship chandler who delivered supplies to oil tankers for years. "The demand is gone."

The line was built to provide for the safe transport of crude oil to Quebec at a time when German U-boats that could sink oil tankers were patrolling the western Atlantic.

LOCAL TAXES

Last year the town of Gilead granted the PMPL a $23,000 tax rebate after the company argued its declining income should be figured into the line's value, according to town officials.

The rebate dropped the company's Gilead tax bill to about $45,000.

Bethel received $28,221 in taxes from PMPL last year. The town's assessing agent said in January that if the pipeline shut down, he would reconsider its valuation.

For Albany, the state received $32,546 in taxes last year, while Waterford took in about $42,000, according to officials.

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Presidential caucuses come to Telstar

By ALISON ALOISIO

Telstar High School hosted both Republican and Democratic Presidential caucuses this past weekend.

On Saturday, Republicans from all over Oxford County gathered and filled the cafeteria to register (see photo below).

They joined many other Maine counties in giving Ted Cruz the win, with 329 votes here. Donald Trump was second with 307 and Ted Kasich third with 76. Marco Rubio was fourth with 62 votes. Ben Carson had 13 votes.

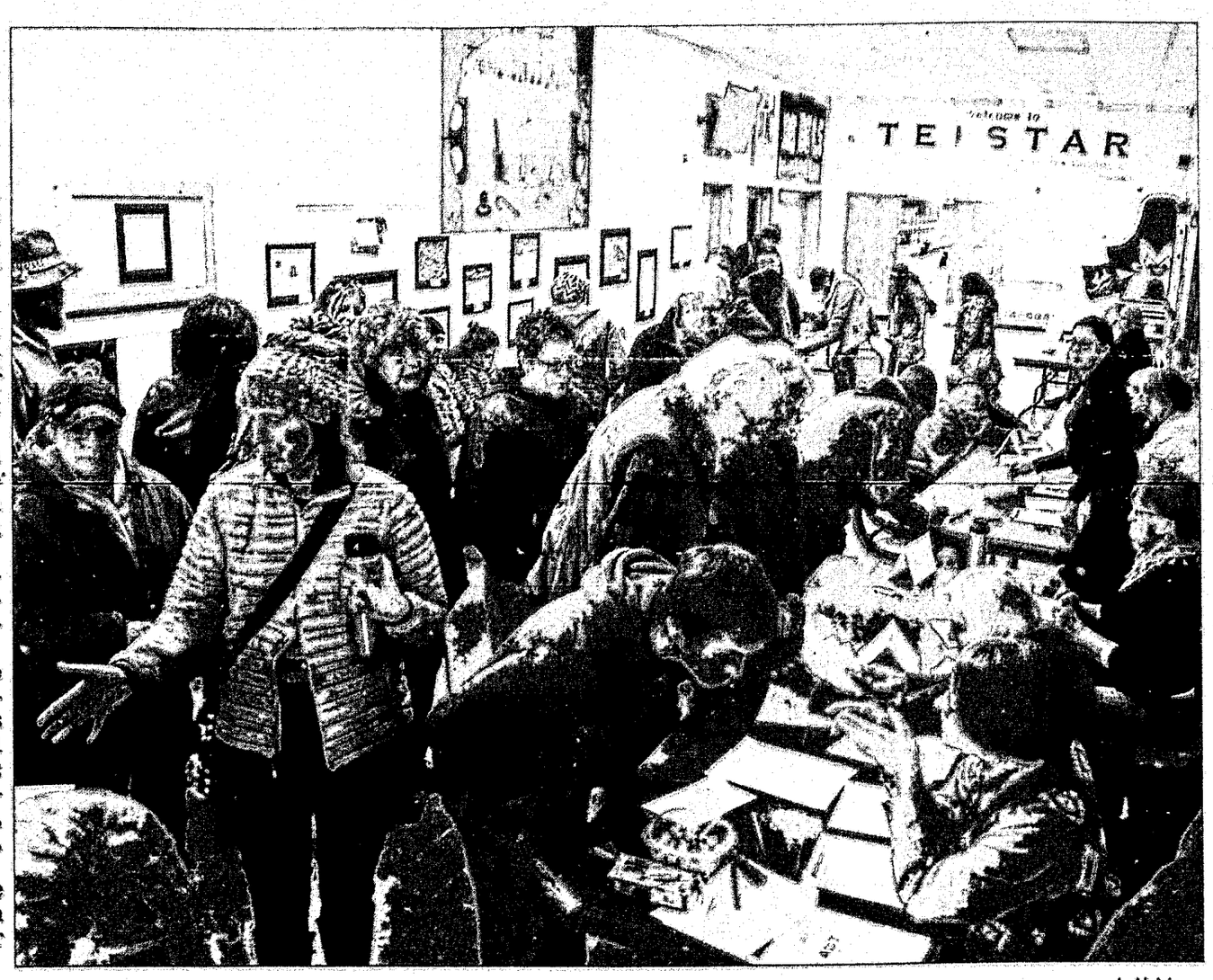
"I couldn't believe how many people came out to caucus on Saturday — we had over 800 people from Oxford County come to Telstar when we were expecting around 300," said Republican State Rep. Fran Head of Bethel. "There was a lot of energy in the room, and it was good so many young people involved as well."

On Sunday it was local Democrats' turn (right), with voters from area towns caucusing. Other Oxford County towns held caucuses elsewhere. The participation throughout Oxford County was estimated at more than 1,000 voters.

The Telstar gathering had a total attendance of 285, including 40 total absentees, according to county Chairman Cathy Newell. Bernie Sanders won 16 state convention delegates locally, and Hillary Clinton five.

Telstar totals: Albany: 23 voters, electing 1 delegate for Sanders; Bethel: 114 voters, delegates - 6 for Sanders, 2 for Clinton; Greenwood: 23 voters, delegates - 1 Sanders, 1 Clinton; Hanover: 10 voters, delegate -1 Sanders; Gilead: 9 voters, delegate - 1 Sanders; Milton: 1 voter, delegate -1 Sanders; Newry: 16 voters, delegate- 1 Sanders; West Paris: 48 voters, delegates - 2 Sanders, 1 Clinton; Woodstock: 41 voters, delegates- 2 Sanders, 1 Clinton.

Eileen Broderick, Bethel convenor, said there were many new caucus participants and ages ranged from 17 to 96. Telstar student John Walker is a delegate for Sanders from Bethel.



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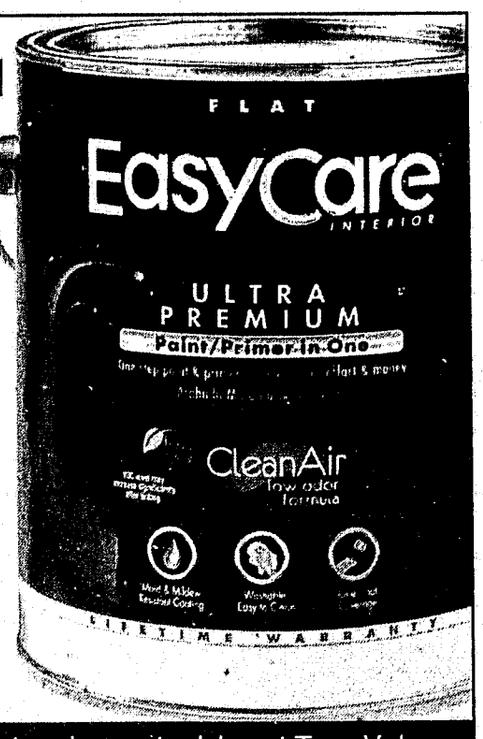

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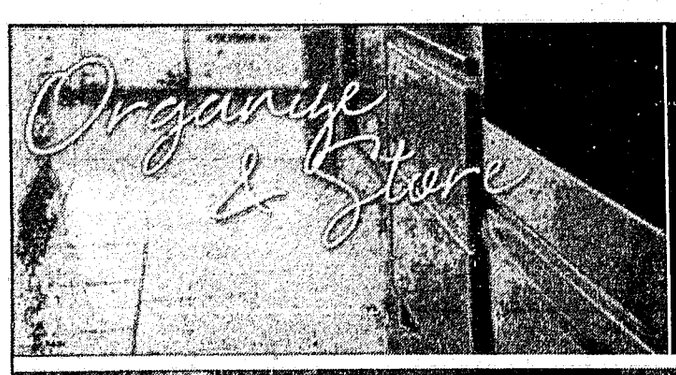

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The Way I See It

by Sharon Bouchard

From the TWISI archives:

I'm on vacation this week, which is usually the time I choose to do nothing more than read a good book or two. However, I'm afraid that it is time for me to partake in the annual ritual of offering up sacrificial dust bunnies to the Gods of good housekeeping and do my Spring-cleaning.

If I had actually done the spring-cleaning last year or even the year before I wouldn't be dreading it to the extent that I am. But, being the procrastinator that I am I've let it slide and have justified my inaction by telling myself that there is still a path through the kitchen and I can get to the refrigerator.

I can't justify, rationalize or make excuses any longer. It's getting harder and harder to get to the refrigerator and it's either clean or move and since all the exits are blocked with debris I can't even think about moving so I guess I'll just have to clean.

All the things I've have bought at yard sales over the years to sell on ebay and everything else I can't seem to bring myself to throw away will have to go. The easiest route would be to bulldoze each room and hose it down afterwards. Easy yes, practical, no. I will instead take one room at a time and remove all the accumulated junk and put it in my spare room. Since the spare room doesn't get used very often I can just nail the door shut to prevent any spillage into the hallway.

I have heard that there are people who don't go though what I do. They keep a clean house all the time and their spring-cleaning consists of washing walls and woodwork. Can you imagine that! Did you know that there are people who actually use toothbrushes to clean cracks and crevices? I'm afraid it would take dynamite to clean my cracks and crevices if I was inclined to clean them at all, but I consider all that solidified crud as insulation.

I suspect the type of people who break out their toothbrushes to clean little corners are the same people who consider "Hints From Heloise" their bible. If, however, you are more likely to be the kind of housekeeper that I am, I have a few little hints of my own.

> There is something to be said for taking the easy way out.

HELPFUL HOUSEHOLD HINTS FROM A SLOB

-For an extremely stained bathtub – spray paint it.

-Grease stains on the wall over the stove – squirt food coloring between the stains and call it modern kitchen art.

-Carpet stains – cover them with newspapers and clothing.

-Household odors – spray Right Guard and tell your guests that your husband has an odor problem.

-Soiled curtains – spray paint them, too.

-Really dirty floors – drip water here and there creating an interesting pattern and call it more kitchen art.

-Gum on clothing – stick on several more pieces of different colored gum and call it acrylic art.

-Dust bunnies – name them and leave them alone, they're the only pets you'll never have to feed.

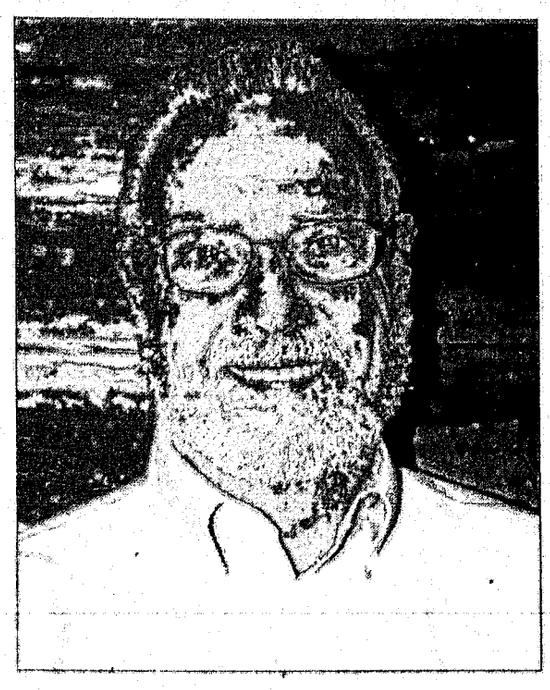
You can laugh if you want, but there is something to be said for taking the easy way out. It's healthier for you. Really, I kid you not. I just read an article entitled "Housework Is Hazardous To Your Health." According to this article researchers at Kaiser Wilhelm University in Bremen, Germany, have found that more housewives are injured or killed keeping the family home running smoothly than in potentially more dangerous jobs like construction or coal mining.

I certainly don't feel that I am someone who should look danger in the eye. I don't think that I have the right to take a chance of denying my family the benefits of my good health.

I guess in spite of the hazards and potential life threatening dangers that lurk behind each appliance, I really do have to do some of the cleaning. So, I'll don my rubber suit, hardhat and take up my can of spray paint and get 'er done.

The way I see it, if housewives everywhere take a few hints from me, a slob, and exercise extreme caution, they will make a hard job easy, stay healthy and live to spring clean again.

MAR 10 2016



CANDIDATE FOR HOUSE DISTRICT 117

Sidney Pew of Andover has announced he is a Democratic candidate for Maine House District 117, according to a press release. Pew will advocate for educational opportunities, common ground and economic success for all, the release said.

He is a small business owner and a former member of the Andover Educational Fund and the SAD 44 school board. Pew and his wife Eileen raised two children, Esther and Elek, in the home they built on Farmers Hill in East Andover.

Pew was a SAD 44 School Board representative for nearly 20 years from the Town of Andover. He chaired the Finance and Negotiations Committees for many years and led the board as its chair during his final years of service.

In 2013 he was the recipient of the Department of Education's Commissioner's Recognition Award for his commitment to the SAD 44 Dropout Prevention Committee. His tenure on the committee, which began in the 1990s, "helped develop the Dropout Prevention Plan that remains viable and useful to the students and community today," the release said.

Pew is running as a Maine Clean Election Candidate (www.maine.gov/cleanelections to contribute).

For more on Pew go to sidneypew.wordpress.com.

The House seat is currently held by Rep. Fran Head (R-Bethel).

From the

OCSD Patrol Log

Monday, Feb. 29

At 1:29 a.m. Deputy Derek MacDonald and Sgt. Tim Holland responded to a report of the theft of a purse on Main Street in Bethel.

At 7:21 p.m. Deputy Chris Davis responded to the Howe Hill Road in Greenwood for a report of a traffic accident with injuries. Three passengers suffered minor injuries in a rollover, caused by icy road conditions.

Tuesday, March 1

At 8:27 a.m. Deputy Andy Whitney received a report of a possible traffic offense happening on a regular basis in Bethel. The information was distributed to deputies.

At 10:13 a.m. Cpl. Justin Brown received a report of subjects breaking into a building in Woodstock. An investigation was pending.

Wednesday, March 2

At 2:08 a.m. Deputy Steve Witham responded to South Main Street in Woodstock for a single vehicle rollover, with no injuries.

Thursday, March 3

At 2:04 a.m. Deputies Nathan Bowie and Josh Aylward investigated a domestic disturbance in Greenwood.

At 12:08 p.m. the Criminal Investigation Division received an anonymous report of drug activity in the Bethel area.

At 12:12 p.m. Cpl. Justin Brown received information that a lifetime sex offender registrant had moved back to the Woodstock area. Community notifications were to be done.

Friday, March 4

At 4:56 p.m. Deputy Steve Witham responded to the Gilead Road in Gilead for a report of a single vehicle crash. The driver was found to have minor injuries.

At 6:56 p.m. Deputies Steve Witham and Nathan Bowie responded to a domestic disturbance in Woodstock.

Saturday, March 5

At 12:52 p.m. Deputy Michael Fitzmorris responded to a single vehicle accident on the Sunday River Road in Bethel, with possible injuries. The driver had struck a tree. He was checked by Rescue but declined medical treatment.

Monday, March 7

At 7:53 a.m. Deputy Michael Fitzmorris conducted a traffic stop on Walkers Mills Road in Bethel. Ryan Smith of Bethel was summonsed for operating after suspension.

At 12:14 a.m. Deputies Matt McDonnell and Derek MacDonald responded to a report of an unwanted person on Howe Hill Road in Greenwood who tried to get into a residence.

GETTING READY-The "warehouse" of equipment to be used in the upcoming improvement work on the Route 2 Androscoggin River bridge is taking shape in the BIG Adventure parking lot next to the site. Work begins on Monday. *D. Bennett*

Bethel

By DON BENNETT

Locally

The Oxford County GOP caucus at Telstar had a big turnout from the looks of the crowd at voting time there. My classmate, Sandy Seaver, told me as I walked into the hall that I had missed the caucus, which I had not intended to attend anyway. The voting was well organized for so large a gathering. Our Representative, Fran Head, was guarding the ballot box and I had my I.D. and registration accomplished quickly.

An unofficial vote results page sent to me via Facebook showed how the county vote went: Cruz, 329; Trump, 307; Kasich, 76 (or 16*); Rubio, 62; Carson, 12 (*hard to read). So about 786 county Republicans voted.

Bridge work preparations

During the last ten days, the BIG Adventure parking lot is becoming the outdoor warehouse for tools, equipment and supplies for Androscoggin Bridge maintenance scheduled to start fairly soon.

From last week's news

Beverly Bennett called me after reading about the 1961 start of the Andover Satellite Communications station. She said that she and her husband had toured inside the "bubble" shortly after it opened in 1961.

A visitor walkway had been installed so that you could walk around the inside bubble perimeter. She took a lot of photographs and sent them off to a "Mail and Save" photo lab in Massachusetts. Beverly said that she had done this many times before and had always gotten excellent, reliable service.

This time, however, her photos were presumably "lost." She told me that she had made repeated attempts to recover the photos without any luck and then had decided that possibly due to the rarity of the images, someone in the lab may have kept them or had slipped them to someone else upon seeing the possible value of the images. Beverly never recovered the photos.

1962 Bethel-Newry school study

In September 1962 the Citizen published a lengthy article about the conclusions of a joint Bethel-Newry School Committees study about the feasibility of forming a two town School Administrative District and the savings in tax payer expense it would mean. Some of the 1962 news article is excerpted below.

Complete school study Sept. 12, 1962

The School Committees of Bethel and Newry have completed a thorough study of a possible School Administrative District. Their recommendation is that no action be taken at the time. However, it is recommended that if the proposed Uniform Tax Principal Law should pass that the subject be immediately reviewed. Under the present law there would be a saving to Bethel of 3 percent in the cost of operating schools, but an increase to Newry of 4 percent. The proposed law would enable Bethel to save 24 percent and Newry to save 21 percent. That would mean a very substantial saving to the tax payer of each town if they joined to form a District under the proposed law.

Under both the present and the proposed law – State aid of 58 percent would be available for school construction, whereas none is available to individual towns. The State would assume $21,360 of the present debt on the Crescent Park School, and Newry would assume $4,456.

The proposal – which was studied involved: no new school construction; closing of the Branch School in Newry; continuing to operate the East Bethel, West Bethel, and Newry Powers schools; a contract with Gould Academy to provide high school education bus transportation of high school as well as elementary pupils; and a Superintendent for the two towns instead of the six towns in the present School Union 22; no State controls beyond those already enforced while operating in a School Union.

Full article is at: http://www.thebetheljournals.info/BethelNewrySchools.htm.

PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to Title 28 MRSA 252 – a notice is hereby given that a Public Hearing will be held on

March 14, 2016

at the Bethel Town Office to consider a Liquor License and Entertainment Permit renewal for The Bethel Inn located at 21 Broad St., Public comment will be heard at that time. Prior to the hearing date written comment may be issued to the Bethel Town Office or email at info@bethelmaine.org

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Town Clerk

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Notice of Public Hearing

The **Woodstock Selectmen** will be holding a Public Hearing, and discussion, on two Town Meeting Warrant articles at 6:00PM on Tuesday March 15, 2016 at the Woodstock Town Office Conference Room. The two articles are as follows:

Article 5. Shall the town vote to purchase the Maine Department of Transportation Bridge Department building on Route 232, to be used as a base for PACE Ambulance & Rescue Services, by raising and appropriating the funds as listed below totaling $85,000.00.

Proceeds from the sale of the Billings Hill Woodlot	$ 38,000.00
Tangible Benefit money from Spruce Mountain Wind ($20,000.00 2015 & $20,000.00 2016)	$ 40,000.00
From Property taxes	$ 7,000.00
Total	**$ 85,000.00**

Article 6. Shall the town vote to purchase the former Sumner property on North Pond from Richard Gordet, to be used as a public boat launch/landing and to accomplish the necessary requirements to develop the property for that purpose and to fund it as follows:

From the Spruce Mountain Wind Land Conservation Fund	$ 50,000.00
From the Planning Board In-Lieu-of land fund	$ 20,000.00
Taxes	$ 20,000.00
Total	**$ 90,000.00**

For more information, you should receive your Annual Town Report in the mail, on or before March 12, 2016 and it contains letters explaining these two articles in detail.

Woodstock Residents

The **Annual Woodstock Town Meeting** will be held on Monday, March 28, 2016 at 7:00 PM at the Woodstock Elementary School.

The **Annual Town Reports** will be delivered by the US Postal Service on or before March 12, 2016. Copies will be available at the Town Office on March 14, 2016.

Just a reminder that **Dog Licenses are now overdue.** There will be an additional fee for dogs still not registered on or before April 1, 2016. It will be $25.00.

Notice to Veterans

Veterans or Widows of Veterans age 62 or older, who may be eligible for property tax exemption under our Maine Laws, should be familiar with the requirement; where by, application for tax exemption must be made to the Assessors before April 1st of the year in which exemption is expected to begin.

Blind Exemption

Exemptions are available to persons determined to be blind within the definition provided by title 22, Chapter 959, who are receiving aid under that Chapter. Exemption must be filed with Assessors before April 1st of the year in which the exemption is expected to begin

Assessor's Notice

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 91-A. Section 34 R.S. 1954 Amend, all resident and non-resident property owners are hereby notified to bring into the Assessors, on or before April 1st, 2016, a true copy and perfect list of their estates, real or personal, of which they are possessed on the April 1st 2016, and be prepared to take oath on same. Any person who neglects to comply with this notice is barred his rights to make application to the assessors or the Assessment Board of Review for any abatement of his tax unless he satisfies the Assessors that he/she was unable to offer it at the appointed time.

Maine Homestead Exemption

If you are a legal resident of the State of Maine, have owned homestead property in Maine for at least the past 12 months, or owned a homestead in another Maine municipality within the past 12 months and declare this homestead as your permanent place of residence, you may meet the requirements to qualify for a Homestead Exemption under the terms of the homestead exemption statute Title 36 MRSA Sections 681-689. Please contact your local Town Office for more information.

Bethel

By NANCY BROWN

Daylight Saving Time begins Sunday, March 13, at 2 a.m. Set your clocks ahead one hour. The idea behind DST is to make better use of daylight by moving an hour of daylight from the morning to the evening. Supposedly this saves energy by lowering the amount of electricity used, but studies disagree on whether this is true. Benjamin Franklin first raised the idea of DST in 1784. At that time the idea was meant to provide more time for work in the fields. It wasn't until 1918 that the United States began using DST. From 1945-1966 there were no federal laws regarding Daylight Saving Time. Local areas set their own times and it was chaotic to schedule train, bus, and airline schedules. The transportation industry set up the Committee for Time Uniformity, which gained support for time standardization but only after revealing that there was a 35-mile stretch of highway between Moundsville, W.V., and Steubenville, Ohio, where there were seven time changes. Bus drivers, passengers, and everyone riding that highway had to change their watches seven times during the short trip. In 1966, President Lyndon Johnson signed the Uniform Time Act. I'm a big supporter of DST. It gives me the chance to go snowshoeing after work (if I can find snow).

Pi Day will be celebrated on Monday, 3/14. The mathematical constant is celebrated around the world in various ways, including mathematical competitions, math games, discussions of the significance of pi, and simply by eating pie (any kind). Princeton University has an annual joint celebration of Pi Day and Albert Einstein's birthday, which is also March 14.

Signs of spring: A huge flock of cedar waxwings arrived in Norway last Tuesday. We saw them outside the library eating the frozen crabapples from the small tree near the driveway, an annual event. Also, maple trees have been tapped for several weeks and sap is running. Maine Maple Sunday is March 27. Farms and sugarhouses across the state will hold open houses demonstrating how syrup is made. Some will provide food, tours, and other activities. Locally there are participating farms and sugarhouses in Greenwood, Waterford, Hebron, Sweden, and Sumner. You can find hours and activities listed at www.mainemapleproducers.ccom.

If you have news to share, please e-mail me at brownnancy1950@gmail.com.

West Bethel

By KAREN PAUL

Terminologies outline the west. They're not farms but ranches, not fields but ranges. The reality of the west is that everything is massively bigger. Getting to and from Crested Butte seemed an enormous undertaking. The town is only 12 roadless miles from Aspen, but as we say in Maine you can't get there from here (easily). While it's only 6 hours hiking or by horseback between the two towns; by car it's a scenic 110 miles through some pretty impressively rocky terrain.

Our nearest Amtrak Station is approximately 150 miles away through canyon not valleys and passes not notches. At 8,885 feet above sea level, Crested Butte is now a thriving ski town. Once the home of the Indigenous Ute in what is known as the East River Valley, this town nestles itself in amongst 12,000 foot peaks. Like most wild places in America, beaver trappers moved into the area to take advantage of the European craze for fur. There are also remnants of old coal and silver mines to be explored. As we travel west around the mountain ranges we see herds of cattle where ranching persists as a way of life. While in the area we visited friends at the Redden Ranch.

Our ride heads from CB, as the locals call it, south on Route 135 following the East River to Almont by Three Rivers Resort where the Taylor, East and Gunnison Rivers meet. We continue on to Gunnison, Colorado's quintessential rodeo town. We pass many businesses, Gunnison Valley Hospital, Tomichi Creek Trading Post, Blue Mesa Lumber to name a few.

In Gunnison we connect with Route 50 which passes through the Gunnison River Canyon leading west into the Blue Mesa Reservoir measuring 20 miles in length, the largest body of water within the state of Colorado. Part of the Curecanti National Recreation Area, the Blue Mesa Dam's main purpose is hydroelectric power. After leaving the dam the Gunnison River enters the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park where the average drop of the river is 95 feet per mile. Compare that drop to the Grand Canyon of the Colorado River whose average drop is only 7.5 feet per mile. It seems everywhere one looks there is another National Park.

Up over Blue Mesa Pass and Cerro summit we travel to Montrose on the Western Slope of the Rocky Mountains. The land here becomes desert like as we descent the mountains and make our final tracks to Grand Junction where our train awaits.

May your week be blessed with good works and happy people.

Contact me at paulkmarie@gmail.com or 836-2266.

A SLOW PACE FOR THESE TWO-Retired racing greyhounds Jessie, 4, and Walt, 6 regularly walk with their human, Alex Waldron, up Main Street in Bethel. Waldron said her adopted dogs are from Jacksonville, Fla., and she has been able to watch their past races online. *A. Aloisio*

East Bethel

By WALLY RITZ

Am so proud of the people of Maine in the choices they made last weekend and the amazing voter turnout. I take it that a bill will be introduced for Maine to go back to regular primaries rather than the caucus system. Seems to me primaries are more efficient. Let me know which system you prefer. No names will be mentioned. I will merely keep a tally. Call me at 507-1008 or e-mail heinrichcracker@gmail.com.

The answer to the Trivia is: Tree Farms started in Maine in 1941. As an extra tidbit, the first official Tree Farm dates back to June 12, 1942 near Montesano, Washington and as they say, the rest is history.

Spring forward this weekend.

Andover

By JANE RICH

Local resident, Freeman Farrington, was honored recently with the presentation of an oak plaque made from a tree on the Brian Myers property. The tree was cut down by his grandson, Josh and sawed out by his son, Mark. The carving of the Knights of Pythias symbol was done by Brian Myers who modestly assured me it could be much better as this was his first attempt.

Freeman has been active in the KP Lodge 115 for many years and has worked hard at restoration projects around town including the tomb at Woodlawn Cemetery as well as with the Town Hall Restoration Committee.

On Sunday, 18 local residents gathered in the Town Hall for the Democratic caucus. This was the biggest caucus turnout I could remember. Many years it was me and one or two other people. Bob Duplessie was the Convener. There were 15 Bernie Supporters and three persons favoring Hillary. Andover was allotted two delegates and both went to Bernie Sanders according the formula from the State Democratic Committee.

The good thing about the caucus was the very civil discussion, something we haven't seen on the national level by some candidates. Following the discussion, one attendant thanked all present for the civility of the gathering.

The traditional Easter Egg Hunt sponsored by Mills' Market will take place on Saturday, March 26 at 9 a.m. Children will gather at the store and then be "turned loose" to hunt for special eggs which will entitle them to a prize. This event was begun by Roger Mills, Sr. and his wife, Louise many years ago because Andover children did not have an opportunity to participate in an egg hunt. It has been carried on by their children and now grandchildren are making sure it doesn't fade away.

The Recreation Committee will be sponsoring a mini-workshop recognizing and avoiding frauds and scams on the telephone and the internet. This event will take place in the Town Hall on Wednesday, April 13, from 2 to 4 p.m. If you're interested in this topic, please let Carol Emery know, so we can have a "head count." Her phone number is 392-3161.

March 17 is the last day to obtain an absentee ballot for the election of Town officials to take place on Tuesday, March 22, following Town Meeting on the 19th. Citizens will be electing one Selectman, Assessor and Overseer of the Poor as well as filling two positions on the School Board.

Papers have only been taken out for one of the School Board positions. A write in campaign is possible. On Town Meeting day the Andover Service Circle will be serving a luncheon. The group hopes all those attending the meeting will avail themselves of a great meal. Hopefully we will be at a place where the meeting can break around 11:30 to facilitate the success of the luncheon.

Locke's Mills

By AMY WIGHT CHAPMAN

The town of Greenwood is seeking interested residents to serve on several boards and committees. There are currently vacancies for two alternate members of the Planning Board, one regular and two alternate members of the Board of Appeals, and two regular members of the soon-to-be-formed MSAD 44 Cost Sharing Committee.

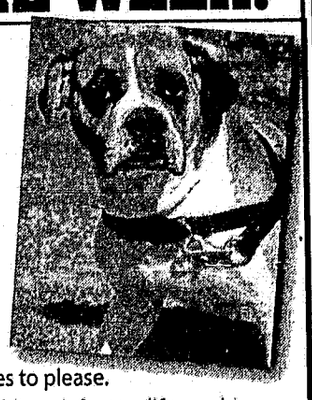
These are all important positions, and we need thoughtful folks to fill them. It's a great way to get involved on the local level; something that I can say from personal experience is very rewarding.

Applications can be picked up at the Town Office on the Gore Road, or you can e-mail Town Manager Kim Sparks at kimsparks@roadrunner.com for an application or more information. The deadline to apply is March 18.

Tony, Will, and I attended the Democratic caucus at Telstar on Sunday, where several area towns held their caucuses at the same time. Sixteen Greenwood residents came to caucus and seven had voted earlier by absentee ballot. Our local results of 15 for Bernie Sanders and 8 for Hillary Clinton mean our town's two delegates to the state convention in May will be split between them. Interestingly, if just

ADOPT
love companionship.
PET OF THE WEEK:

Meet Whitney



Whitney did not have the best life before she came to Responsible Pet Care; neglect and too many puppies had taken a toll on her physically.

Despite the injustice that was done to this two-year old, mixed breed dog, she has remained loving and trusting of people.

Whitney is eager to learn and ready to make friends, especially when treats are involved. She loves to please.

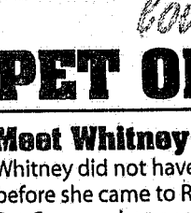
Socializing was not a priority in Whitney's former life, so she will need to be the only pet in the home. She should be in an adult home because her size and enthusiasm can be too much for children.

Responsible Pet Care of Oxford Hills is a no-kill, non-profit shelter and adoption center for cats and dogs; and the holding area for stray dogs for 12 towns in Oxford County.

Anyone interested in adopting a pet from RPC can visit the shelter at 9 Swallow Road in South Paris Tues, Wed, Thurs: 12-4 pm; Fri: 12-6pm; Sat & Sun: 12-5pm. Most of the adoptable pets and the adoption application can be found online on the shelter's website atwww.rpc.petfinder.com.

For answers to questions about adopting or fostering a pet, or to make an inquiry about a lost animal, CALL RESPONSIBLE PET CARE AFTER NOON AT 743-8679.

Pet of the Week is Sponsored By



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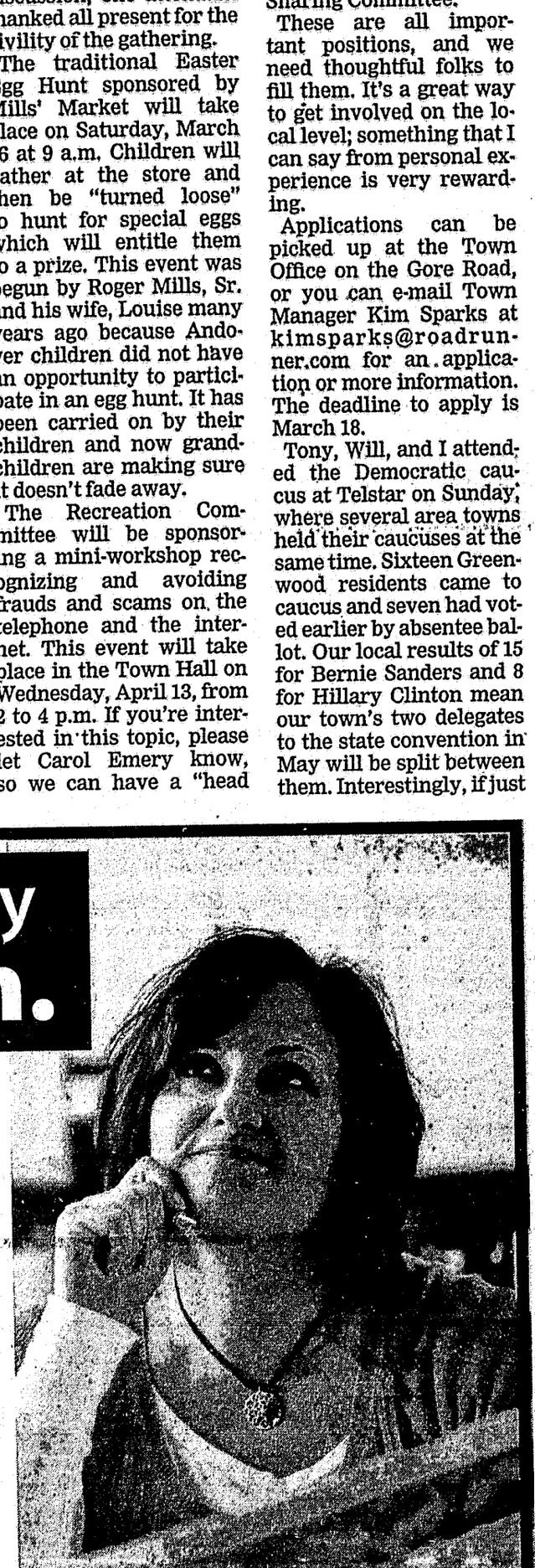

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one person had switched sides from Hillary to Bernie, both of our delegates would have gone for Bernie, which shows how every vote really can make a difference.

I was very sorry to hear that Peter Seames broke his hip in a fall recently. Thoughts and prayers go out to Pete and his family.

I have Anadama bread rising as I write this on Monday morning. I use the recipe in Marjorie Standish's first cookbook, Cooking Down East, and always have. It's one of our favorite kinds of bread, but I find that it's a bit unpredictable, sometimes rising well and other times not so well, causing it to come out heavier than I'd like. Even when I ran my bakery, and made Anadama bread a couple of times a week, I was never entirely sure how it would turn out.

Speaking of bread, we've become fans of the round sourdough loaves sold at the grocery store in Bethel (which will always be the IGA to me), and last weekend I decided to try making my own sourdough starter. I've done it once before with moderate success, but I ended up cheating and adding just a bit of active dry yeast when I made bread in order to get it to rise enough.

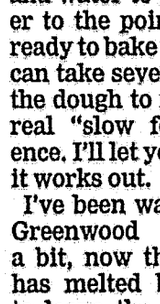
Real sourdough bread depends on wild yeast and lactobacilli that are naturally present in flour, as well as in the air, and it takes somewhere between a week and two weeks of daily "feeding" with flour and water to get the starter to the point where it's ready to bake with. Then it can take several hours for the dough to rise, so it's a real "slow food" experience. I'll let you know how it works out.

I've been walking on the Greenwood Road quite a bit, now that the snow has melted back enough to leave the edges of the road dry and ice-free. I enjoy seeing the incremental changes on the ponds each day at this time of the year and keeping an eye on the expanding pool of open water by the culvert that goes under the road in the area Diddy Johnson called Mayes' Bridge. Spring is on the way, and, even though this winter hasn't been especially harsh, I'm always ready to welcome it.

E-mail your news to amy.w.chapman@gmail.com, leave a message at 875-5511, or contact me on Facebook.

Newry

By DOUG WEBSTER



There seems to be a lot of talk about conflict of interest. I will say that just because a person discloses their conflict, doesn't magically take it away. There are definitely different degrees of conflict, and situations arise in small towns. One example would be if a selectperson has a family member or a relative that worked for an entity and the entity was dealing with the board. I think it would be appropriate to just disclose it. Even though a situation could arise, it's not directly tied to the family member. Another example would be if a select person was making decisions for the town while dealing directly with their employer. That would seem like more of a direct conflict, but the state statute does say that the official can disclose their conflict and/or abstain from discussion and voting, depending on the level of conflict I presume. Either way, the best way to resolve whether there is a conflict or not is to let the other board members make that decision. That way it takes the person with the possible conflict out of the equation.

I see the funding formula committee is getting put together. I hope that it is a committee of citizens that don't have any connections with the school. Anybody from Newry interested in being a committee member should call the town office. I hope the reason that we are negotiating the cost funding formula isn't just to keep Newry from withdrawing. I hope it's to make us more in line with the rest of the state. The state has already figured out how to make it fair to each town, and that was to base the cost mostly on the number of pupils a town has. I don't understand why the school board cannot see the simplicity of this process.

It was great to see and hear about the fabulous turnout for the Maine State Caucuses this weekend. Can you imagine if the country went the way that Maine did! A Sanders/Cruz general election – wow, wouldn't that be something. That's all for now.

Gilead

By LIN CHAPMAN

Our sunshine and warm weather comes and goes. At least when the sun is shining, it melts some more of the snow.

My brother, Steve McLain, was driving from Gilead to Bethel the other day and came across a Bald Eagle setting in the top of a tree just below the village. The eagle was interested in checking out some unfortunate turkey that had met its demise on Route 2.

Lise McLain attended a luncheon for seniors in the area. It was held at Gould Academy and is an event that Gould has hosted for the past few years.

Happy Birthday wishes for March go out Brad McLain and Lise McLain for the 11th and 20th.

Brad McLain and Carole Mason will be celebrating their 5th wedding anniversary on March 14.

We were surprised by a visit from Ken Garry from Middleton, N.H. last Saturday. He was in the area and stopped by to check in. Ken spent last summer, as he has done for the past several years, at the Hastings Campground. Since he likes the area and wanted to learn more about it, he joined the Gilead Historical Society. He and Hugh did some hiking around Hastings and found many interesting sites. They were mostly looking for the remains of the village that used to be there.

Our granddaughter, Sidney Chapman, plays ice hockey for a Berlin team at the Notre Dame Arena. This past weekend the team was in the playoffs in Laconia, N.H. The team played well and they won one game and lost another by one goal.

Town Office

The Republican and Democratic Caucuses were held on March 5 and 6 at Telstar Regional High School. Linsley Chapman, Town Clerk/Registrar for Gilead, attended both of these events. Town Clerks/Registrars are required to attend the caucus to register new voters or to give voters who are registered as unenrolled a chance to enroll in a party.

The Republican Caucus was county wide, but the Democratic Caucus was area towns. Some of the registrars from the bigger towns were quite busy, but I had one enrolled person change to a Republican on Saturday and a new voter register as a Democrat on Sunday.

Got any news? Call 836-2987 or e-mail chapmal@hotmail.com.

LIBRARY BOUND-The kids from the Bethel Early Learning Center made their weekly trek up Main Street recently on their way to the Bethel Library. In the background is teacher Jefrae Alford. The kids didn't need their winter gear this week. *A. Aloisio*

Upton

By JOE BERNIER

I believe that the Ladies Aid will stop providing weekly Sunday breakfasts on Easter Sunday. They do plan to offer breakfasts some Sundays after that on holidays (Mother's Day, for example) and other special days.

During the last week of February, Channel 8 weathermen mentioned that Portland had received an average amount of snowfall so far for the winter, slightly over 40 inches. According to Penny's "official" records here in Upton, we had 34 inches of snow fall by Feb. 29. The largest single snowfall was last week, 5 inches.

I went back through her records of previous years to the winter of 2009/2010. Before this year, the lowest snowfall up to the last of February during that time was 63 inches in 2013/2014.

Only one other year had less than 100 inches and the highest was 121 inches in 2010/2011.

It has been a disappointing year for all of us that like winter sports and difficult year for all the businesses that directly or indirectly depend on snow for their income.

Mason

By RICHARD GROVER

Last Saturday, I went to the Republican caucus at Telstar High School, a first for me. I wanted to see what a caucus was like. My first observation was that it seemed a lot like the processing line for new recruits into the military service, what with all the lines of people waiting to get "processed" for something.

At least, at the caucus, they didn't make you drop your shorts or roll up your sleeves for shots, or sit you down in a chair and cut off all your hair. Nor did they load you down with an armload of OD green clothing, black brogans and bedding. There were a lot of campaign slogans and doodads available for the taking, however.

What they did do was check your photo ID card and issue you a registration form, which only entitled you to take the registration form and go and stand in another long, long line where you finally were given a ballot to cast for your candidate of choice.

Besides that, there was a lot of mingling, shooting the breeze with a few friends, meeting some new friends (my Vietnam Veteran baseball cap was good for that) and finding the table with your town in bold letters where you could caucus. Trouble for me was that there was no Mason Township table, so I had to caucus with some nice Bethel folks, where we learned about the state Republican convention to be held in Bangor next month. I'm thinking about going, because I have never been to a state convention, except American Legion conventions. I like to try out new experiences now and then.

I was disappointed that Donald Trump and Ted Cruz never showed up at Telstar; I was hoping to get entertained and schmoozed, which, of course, never happened!

I did get into a few interesting discussions about the direction which the Republican Party is being taken and whether or not Trump is broadening the party's base with a lot of new people showing up for campaign events.

While there were disagreements about which candidate is best, I think we all agreed that Republicans need to support the eventual nominee and defeat the Clinton machine in the general election.

So. Woodstock

By LOLALEE DILLINGHAM

Condolences to the families of Gordon E. Brown, Ann N. Bickford, Henry N. Mowett, Judy Tripp, John E. Marshall, and Raymond I. Colby.

Get well wishes are going out to Paul Carey and others who may be recovering from an illness or surgery.

Folks left Friday and Saturday driving to Pigeon Forge, Tenn. for the National American Country Music competitions being held at the Country Tonite Theatre through the week. Wishing each contestant good luck in their category.

Birthday wishes to all who are celebrating this month.

My niece Dori will be attending the Democratic convention in May that is

We are still praying for Carol Cox and others who are going through some medical issues.

Band practice tomorrow here, Paula and Kirk will be driving up for the afternoon.

That's all from the valley this week.

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Waterford

By ROCKIE GRAHAM

This will be a short column as it is late. This was a very big weekend. I was at the Town Office three times. Friday I registered my car, couldn't vote because I had a class to get to. Saturday I went to Town Meeting. To me it seemed there were fewer people there than previous years, but I guess that means there weren't any controversial issues. Sunday I went to the Dem Caucus. I think that was better attended than the town meeting. At least it was close. Unfortunately people showed up too late to vote and people from other towns showed up thinking they could vote anywhere. Even had this been a primary, one couldn't just go to any town and vote. It is too bad that some of those were young people and should have been informed.

One of the issues at Town Meeting was the money paid to the library. While I agree that there are more and more programs at the library, they are only for the able bodied. Adult coloring, Socrates café, discussion groups and the Friday coffee hour all sound like fun. I hope that soon the library will see fit to hold programs in accessible locations. Call the library at 583-2050.

Condolences go out to the family of Eric Schwarz of Bethel.

Next Sunday, March 13, Rotary Club holds their breakfast from 7:30 to 11 a.m. at Gould Academy Ordway Hall. Adults are $8 and children $5. Proceeds to Rotary Projects.

Don't forget book discussion fourth Wednesday at 10 a.m. at Waterford library and the bridge group will meet the fourth Monday at the library. FMI call 583-2050.

Must cut this short. Have a great week. I am waiting for the sun and warmth as promised.

Bryant Pond

By ALICE HOYT

The Whitman Memorial Library program is today, March 10, at 2 p.m. Guest speaker is Jim Chandler. He will be speaking on his recent trip to Palestine. In 2007, Jim met a fellow teacher at the World Forestry Institute and has kept in touch with teachers and students in Palestine. Come learn about living, working and the culture of Palestine. The public is welcome to attend, no charge, light refreshments.

The Woodstock Historical Society will resume meetings on Saturday, March 12 at the Town Conference Room at 1 p.m. Heidi Inman and her sister will have the program on Stephens Mills area. They have been researching this area. Note the time: 1 p.m.

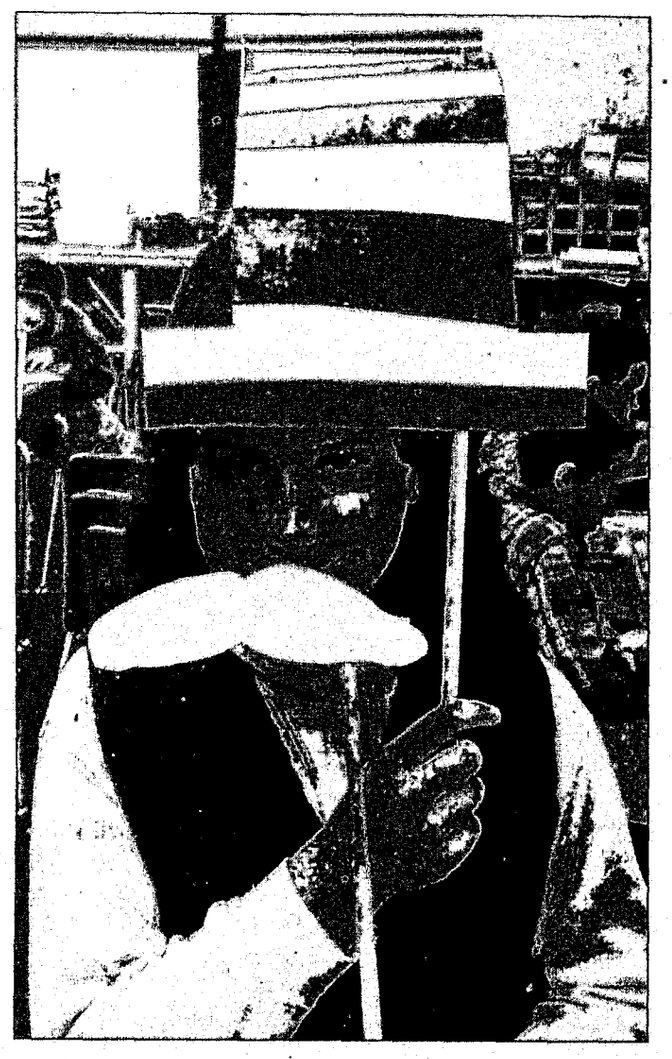
Judith Grover Tent 17 DUVCW will resume meetings on Monday, March 14 at the home of Alice Hoyt at 7 p.m.

Services at the Baptist Church are Sunday School at 9:15, Morning Worship at 10:30, Evening Service at 6 p.m. Wednesday evening at 6:30 is Mid-Week Service, Bloom for girls 13 to 18 and Foundations for guys 15 and up. Saturday, March 19 will be Men's Fellowship Breakfast at 7 a.m. March 21 to 25 at the Norway Baptist Church, Pastor Jones will be teaching a series of lessons on Baptist History. Meetings start at 6:30 each night. March 27 is Resurrection Sunday.

Celebrating Dr. Seuss at CPS

Students at the Crescent Park Elementary School in Bethel observed Dr. Seuss' birthday last week by dressing up as the many characters in his books. Clockwise, from left: Lily Ryan as Cindy Lou Who; Vince Chapman and Emma Chapman as Thing 1 and Thing 2; Corinne Nivus at the photo booth; Brandon McLean as The Lorax.

Submitted photos



Age-Friendly Community news

The Age-Friendly Community Project Team for the Bethel Area community (which includes Bethel, Newry, Greenwood and Woodstock) is ready to launch into the development of our Action Plan for submission to AARP. We plan to organize focus group discussions among a wide variety of local groups, in the hopes that we will hear from citizens: what is our community lacking that would help older citizens lead meaningful lives without leaving the area? What are some areas where you might have some special interest?

Perhaps you are already in need of additional services ... perhaps you anticipate those needs in the near future ... perhaps you have family members or friends in this community who are currently in need ... or perhaps you know that you will someday reach the point where your stay in this wonderful community depends on how well your neighbors and local services can provide for your needs.

Task forces are being formed to address several areas of concern as noted in the responses to our survey in the fall. If you are interested in the Transportation Task Force, you may contact Al Cressy (ajcressy@megalink.net, 824-0508). To help with Communication and Information, contact Nancy Davis (nancydavis.bethel@gmail.com, 381-1110). More task forces will emerge soon.

We hope a wide range of people are learning about our progress weekly through the Bethel Citizen, biweekly through our electronic newsletter, or taking printed bulletins from several distribution sites. If you know someone who is not reached through any of these avenues, we would be happy to post-mail bulletins. Please contact Nancy Davis (see above) to be added to emails or post-mails.

Democrats to meet post-caucus

The Oxford County Democrats will hold a post-caucus meeting and planning session on Sunday, March 13, at 2 p.m. at Crescent Park School in Bethel.

The meeting is open to Democrats and those interested in electing Democrats. Business items will include planning for the coming campaign season with reports from legislative and county candidates, fundraising, schedule of events, and the election of a treasurer for the county committee.

There will be follow-up from the 2016 March 6 caucuses and planning for the 2016 Democratic State Convention in Portland on May 6 and 7.

For further information visit https://www.facebook.com/OxfordCountyDems/.

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Bethel, Greenwood historical societies collaborate on book

To commemorate this year's bicentennial of the Town of Greenwood, the Bethel Historical Society and Greenwood Historical Society are teaming up to publish an annotated and illustrated book based on the early 20th century writings of Addison Emery Verrill (1839-1926), a Greenwood native and renowned American zoologist who recorded his memories about the early history, natural resources, social life, and genealogy of Greenwood, Maine, in a series of more than two dozen articles for a local paper. The book, which will contain rare photographs and maps provided by Verrill descendants, is being edited by Herb Adams of Portland and Larry Glatz of Scarborough, with formatting and layout by Will Chapman of the Greenwood Historical Society (Chapman also serves as librarian/archivist at the Bethel Historical Society).

The new book is expected to be available in time for Greenwood's official bicentennial celebration in mid-August, and after publication will also be for sale at the Bethel Historical Society's Museum Shop and on its website. Donations in support of this project are already being collected by the Bethel Society, and anyone who makes a financial gift to assist with start-up costs will be recognized in the book's acknowledgments section.

Herb Adams, a Maine historian and politician who teaches at Southern Maine Community College, will present a program about Addison Verrill at the Greenwood Town Hall on Wednesday, June 1, at 7 p.m. This free event is sponsored by the Greenwood Historical Society and will include an update on the bicentennial book project.

Western Maine Fly Fishing Expo coming to Bethel

Submitted photo

At the Western Maine Fly Fishing Expo on Saturday, March 19 at the Bethel Inn Conference Center, there will be more than 35 exhibitors in the main conference room, a large selection of fishing related silent auction items, a kid's fly tying bench, well known guest speakers — and in the evening, a special showing of the latest Fly Fishing Film Tour feature film.

This year's exhibitors include guides and outfitters, sporting camps in Maine, New Brunswick and Labrador, fishing equipment representatives, fly fishing shops, fly tyers, bamboo rod builders, artists, authors and several organizations associated with fly fishing.

The guest speaking line up starts with Robert Romano — acclaimed author of fishing related novels, stories and essays — who will share his extensive knowledge of fishing in the Rangeley region. Award winning fly tyer Selene Dumaine will demonstrate tying flies using Carrie Stevens' viseless in-hand method. Bill Pierce, Executive Director of the Rangeley Outdoor Sporting Heritage Museum will present the history of fly fishing in the Rangeley region, and Robin Reeve, Managing Partner of Labrador's Three Rivers Lodge will talk about fly fishing for Labrador's legendary brook trout.

As always, there will be a kid's fly tying bench manned by experienced fly tyers throughout the day. Each child who ties a fly will be entered in a raffle for one of four free fly tying kits. Winners need not be present at the drawing.

This event is the primary fund raiser for the Mollyockett Chapter of TU and provides support for conservation projects and fly casting and fly tying lessons for youth groups, schools and charitable organizations such as Casting For Recovery and the Cancer Resource Center of Western Maine. Also, a portion of the proceeds will flow to the Disabled Veteran's Fishing Pier at Songo Lock, an enterprise initiated and funded by the Mollyockett Chapter together with the State of Maine. The Grand Opening for this benevolent new resource will take place later in the spring.

The Expo is open from 9 a.m. til 4 p.m. with a $5 entrance fee. At 7 p.m. Carter Davidson of Gray Ghost Productions will present the 2016 Fly Fishing Film Tour's feature film for an additional cost of $15 per person. Tickets for the film may be purchased throughout the day from the staff.

FMI visit www.mollyockettu.org or see us on Facebook at mollyockett.tu

Special free classes

Introduction to fly fishing

Join us for an instructional series presented by the Mollyockett Chapter of Trout Unlimited. If you have ever been curious about or had an interest in learning to fly fish this series of instruction is a great way to learn about this fascinating sport.

FF 101

Wednesday, April 13 at the First Congregational Church, 17 East Main St, South Paris, Maine from 7 p.m. until 9 p.m. Topics include understanding fly tackle: rod, reel, line, leader and fly, biology of fish, and their natural foods, fly fishing tactics, and fly casting. Presenters include Master Maine Guides, expert fly fishermen and fly tyers, and certified fly casting instructors.

FF 102 and 103

Saturday June 4 and Saturday June 25 from 6 a.m. until noon at the Wild and Androscoggin Rivers confluence in Gilead. On the water instruction on fly casting, rigging the fly rod and gear, reading the water, fly selection, tactics and techniques for fishing with nymphs, wet flies; streamers, and dry flies. Instructors include Master Maine Guides, certified casting instructors, and experienced fly fishermen/women. Participants should bring their own waders. Fly rods and flies will be available if you do not have your own.

FMI and to register contact Laurie Herron by email laurie@royalrivergraphics.com or phone (207) 838-4447, Mac McGinley (207) 432-1910, or e-mail cemcginley@hotmail.com.

Civil War lectures at WMCC

A Civil War Lecture Series is coming to White Mountains Community College. Twenty-one major engagements will not only be explained using maps, figures, sketches, and photos, but also a rational explanation will be provided regarding how the loser could have won and how the winner could have won better, using the existing technology of their day. Many of these ideas, concepts, and processes can still be used in everyday life. Such strategies as control, reconnaissance, processing, and common sense can help anyone at any level deal with life's ups and downs.

The lecture series meets Mondays for eight weeks beginning March 21 from 6 pm to 8 p.m. at White Mountains Community College's Berlin campus. The orator, David Moore, will have on hand the reference book for purchase. The cost for the lecture series is $100.

Other non-credit offerings beginning in March and back by popular demand are: Selling on eBay® ($80), Fly-tying for Beginners, ($35), Intermediate Fly-tying ($35), and Sushi Rolling with Chef Giles.

Information on the full Spring non-credit courses can be obtained on the White Mountains Community College website at www.wmcc.edu. Register for classes by contacting Tamara Roberge, Project Manager, by email at troberge@ccsnh.edu or by phone 342-3062.

Winter Market schedule

The Western Mountains Winter Market is held on Fridays, all from 2-6 p.m. at the Greenwood Town Hall (next to the Greenwood Post Office). Currently it runs every other week to coordinate with the Boondocks Buying Club pickups, but it may go back to once weekly if the customer base demands rise, and as vendors are able to produce more.

Upcoming dates are: March 18, April 1 and April 15.

"We try to offer a little bit of everything but it changes week to week," said Market Manager Meryl Kelly. "Right now we always have available grass fed beef, meatballs, chili from Thunder Hill Farms (she also has a limited selection of lamb, pork and eggs.) Fresh baked goods both sweet and savory from Angry Mountain Farm, Fresh Made Pasta (filled and not) and crusty bread from Fiddle Stick Farm. On top of that we always have one vegetable farmer (vendor changes but lately it's been Patch Farm), Gluten Free options, ice cream and Maple Syrup by Dunham Farms – Velvet Hollow and really amazing jams, jellies, relishes and pickles from A Country Flavor (she will be offering seedlings pretty soon) Then occasionally we have cheese from Harmony Farms (her goats are currently kidding so they won't be back for a couple weeks). It is our hope to continue this market into the summer months though we are still debating what that will look like."

Into the Woods program: Wildland Fires

Have you ever noticed smoke coming from a forest and wondered about its source? You may have been passing a prescribed burn conducted by the Forest Service.

As part of its "Into the Woods" series, the Mahoosuc Land Trust welcomes Chris O'Brien of the U.S. Forest Service, who will give an overview of wildland and prescribed fires in Maine and across the United States – or, as he says, "the yin and yang of wildland fire: balancing the science of fire with the art of experience." Chris will speak at McLauglin Auditorium on the Gould Academy campus at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, March 16.

All in the community are warmly welcomed to attend. In addition to photos and explanation, Chris will have some clothing and tools on hand to help folks get a sense of the job of conducting managed burns.

The Mahoosuc Land Trust is an accredited community land trust encouraging public interest in conservation in central Oxford County and eastern Coos County, NH, supporting a balance of growth and conservation and emphasizing sustainable and traditional land uses. The Shelburne Trails Club supports and promotes safe use and stewardship of the Shelburne, N.H. area trails.

For more information visit www.mahoosuc.org or call 207-824-3806

NAMI class offered

NAMI Maine and its Western Mountains affiliate are offering NAMI's Family to Family education course in South Paris at the University College Center, starting on Thursday, April 7. It is FREE and is an educational program for families, friends and caregivers of persons living with mental illness. It is taught by NAMI trained teachers who also have lived experience with these mental diseases. The classes will meet each Thursday night from 6 to 8:30 p.m. until June 23. Learn about the mental illnesses, treatments, how to problem solve, communicate and cope, as well as advocacy, find resources and self-care.

To learn more and to register, contact: NAMI Maine at namimaine.org or 1-800-464-5767.

Native plant and tree sale by OCSWCD

Oxford County Soil & Water Conservation District is pleased to once again offer an amazing list of native plants for beginning to advanced gardeners throughout Oxford County and the surrounding area. This year's list includes many choices of flowering perennials, ferns, vines, groundcovers, edible plants, and trees. A special section has been devoted to native erosion control and wildlife support plants. There are old favorites such as Columbine, Butterfly Weed, Lobelia, Elderberry, Pussy Willow, Virginbower, Yellowroot and Sweetfern, several varieties of low bush and highbush blueberries, cranberries and lingonberries, and both deciduous and evergreen tree seedlings are being offered in the sale, with an emphasis on native species which are not host trees for the Emerald Ash Borer and Asian Longhorned Beetle. Native conservation gardening is fun, interesting, rewarding and supports our native wildlife- pollinators, plant-eating insects and fruit-eating birds. For more information about gardening with native plants go to www.wildflower.org, Wildflower Center- A Guide to Native Plant Gardening, or the University of Maine Cooperative Extension UMCE Bulletin #2500- Gardening to Conserve Maine's Native Landscape.

The native plant order form is available by contacting the OCSWCD at 743-5789, ext. 111, or emailing us at oxfordcountyswcd@gmail.com. Information sheets are also available for specific plantings by area and type - Native Plants, Plants for Fruit Display, Plants for Wet Areas, Plants for Fragrance, Plants for Rain Garden Areas, Plants for Dry Areas and Plants for Hummingbird and Butterfly Gardens. All orders must be received by April 30 and pick-up day will be May 7 at the Hooker Family Farm Open House, 195 Pleasant Street in Oxford.

Trout Sale & Farm Pond workshop

Orders for delivery of Rainbow, Brown or Brook trout to private ponds are now being accepted by the Oxford County Soil & Water Conservation District. The district is offering a special price on 5-6" Brook trout this year. This size is especially good for those who are stocking their pond for the first time or those who don't have any large trout in their pond. All trout orders must be received by May 15. The fish will be delivered directly to your pond by Pierce Associates/Shy Beaver Hatchery of West Buxton, Maine. Sonny spent his career with IF&W and will be happy to share his extensive knowledge of trout and trout habitat with you. A Permit to Stock from the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife is required and may be obtained by going to their website, or by calling or stopping in at the Oxford County Soil & Water Conservation District office.

On Saturday, April 30 there will be a Farm Pond Construction and Trout Stocking Workshop held in Cummings Hall of First Baptist Church of Paris, located at 500 Paris Hill Road, Paris. Beginning at 9 am Candace Gilpatric, Natural Resource Conservation Service Agricultural Engineer and Sonny Pierce, of Shy Beaver Hatchery will lead a workshop on farm pond construction and stocking your private pond with trout. Both of these workshops are interesting, informative and will include plenty of time for individual questions and answers. The morning workshop will end at 11:30 and be followed by lunch and a field trip to a local farm pond for a "walk and talk".

Check-in for the day is 8:30 -9 a.m. Snacks and lunch will be served. There is a fee of 20.00 for the day and pre-registration by April 26nd is required. To register for the workshop, please call Oxford County Soil & Water Conservation District at 743-5789, ext. 111, email oxfordcountyswcd@gmail.com, or stop by our office at 17 Olson Road, South Paris.

Free parenting workshops in Norway and Rumford

You can only get so far by seeking parenting advice on social media or television talk shows, so join other local Moms, Dads and caregivers for a free 6-week parenting workshop.

Facilitated by Community Concepts and utilizing the Active Parenting curriculum, participants receive a parent's guide and workbook. Open to all parents and guardians of children ages 5-12, the course uses videos, activities and group discussions to cover a host of uncomfortable family related topics, including:

- discipline techniques
- communication strategies with your children
- diffusing and handling problems
- teaching reasonability and fostering independence
- holding family meetings
- coping with difficult topics such as drugs, violence, sex.

Workshops will take place at two locations:

Wednesdays

March 16, 23, 30 and April 6, 13 and 27; Guy E. Rowe School, Main Street, Norway, 5 -7 p.m. (dinner and childcare for school aged children provided)

Thursdays

March 17, 24, 31 and April 7, 14 and 28, Rumford Public Library, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. (Childcare NOT Provided)

To register for either location please call Melissa Wakefield of Community Concepts at 207-739-6544. Pre-registration is required.

Community Concepts who just celebrated their 50th Anniversary, is a private non-profit, 501 (c)(3)Community Action Agency whose mission is to provide leadership, education and support to build thriving individuals, families and communities.

For more information or to learn how you can get involved, visit www.community-concepts.org or call (207) 795-4065 or 1-800-866-5588.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Northern Vista at Home Senior Care; Free shuttle service to those going to reoccurring chemo or radiation appointments at St. Mary's or Central Maine Medical Center in Lewiston. To schedule a ride, call Gerry McCann, director, at 207-836-2173.

District Exchange; Bethel Park, 23 Mason Street, Bethel. Hours: Monday 1 to 4 p.m., Thursday 4 to 6 p.m., Saturday, 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Donations of gently-used clothing only accepted during open hours – No exceptions. FMI: 824-4090. Clothing may also be left at Northeast Bank, Main Street, Bethel Monday through Wednesday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Thursday and Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Saturday 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

Bethel Area Food Pantry; serving the residents of Albany, Andover, Bethel, East Bethel, West Bethel, Bryant Pond, Gilead, Greenwood, Hanover, Locke's Mills, Mason Township, Newry, Upton and Woodstock. The Food Pantry is open on the second Monday of each month from noon to 8 p.m. Anyone in need of food should come during those hours, without appointment. The Food pantry is located in the basement of the Nazarene Church, 16 Church Street, Bethel, by the side entrance on Park Street. Donations for the Bethel Food Pantry should be left on the porch at 57 Elm Street. Contact Dave Bean at beand@gouldacademy.org or 824-0369 with any questions.

Free Indoor Walking Group; 6:30 p.m. Monday and Wednesday with Denise Hurd at Andover Elementary School.

Thursday, March 10

AGE-FRIENDLY TRANSPORTATION MEETING; 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., Bethel Congregational Church. Presented by the AARP Age-Friendly Community Project. A panel discussion, featuring panelists from both the professional and grass-roots community perspectives, followed by a time for public input regarding transportation needs for Bethel area seniors, the disabled and the isolated. FMI: Al Cressy (ajcressy@megalink.net or 824-0508).

LIBRARY PROGRAM ON PALESTINE; 2 p.m., Whitman Memorial Library, Bryant Pond. Jim Chandler will be the guest speaker, talking about his recent trip to Palestine. In 2007 Jim met a fellow teacher at the World Forestry Institute and has kept in touch with teachers and students in Palestine. Come learn a bit about living and working in, and the culture of, Palestine. The program is open to the public at no charge and light refreshments will be served.

DODGE FOR A CURE; 3 to 5 p.m., Telstar gymnasium. This event is a charity dodgeball tournament typically between students and staff teams of eight. This year, the tournament is open to parents as well. Proceeds raised benefit cancer research at the Dempsey Center in Lewiston.

PIZZA AND A MOVIE NIGHT; 5 to 9 p.m., Frank's Bar and Grille, Fall Line Condos, Sunday River. $10 includes a large slice of pizza, beverage and ski movie. Proceeds benefit the Ski Museum of Maine.

SHADAGEE RAMBLERS; 6 to 9 p.m., Open Mic and pizza night, Loose Boots Lounge, Mt. Abram.

Friday, March 11

ALDER RIVER GRANGE MEETING; 6 p.m. potluck supper followed by a 7 p.m. meeting at Stan Howe's home on Broad Street (weather permitting).

Saturday, March 12

OXFORD HILLS HONEY BEE CLUB MEETING; 1 p.m., Oxford County Extension Center, 9 Olson Road, South Paris. Speaker will be Commercial Bee Keeper Tony Bachelder. Topic will be feeding bees in the winter, and spring management. Public's welcome. FMI: Christopher Easton (cpeaston@megalink.net) or mainehoneybees.com.

TURKEY SUPPER; 4:30 to 6 p.m., American Legion Hall, 184 Congress Street, Rumford. Turkey, potatoes, stuffing, grave, peas, corn, cranberry sauce, rolls, brownie sundaes, coffee, tea and punch. Adults $7, kids 5-12 $5, under 5 free. Chinese auction items. 50/50 raffle. Proceeds benefit the family of Sally Campbell, who recently passed away from cancer. FMI: Brenda (743-7647) or Kathy (743-6875).

WOODSTOCK HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETING; 6 p.m. at the Town Office complex. Following the 6 p.m. business meeting, the "Metal Detecting Sisters" will show slides of their research in the Stephen's Mills area of Woodstock. All are invited to attend.

SWINGIN' BEARS SQUARE DANCE; 7 to 10 p.m., Oxford Hills Middle School, 100 Pine Street, South Paris. Walt and Gracie Bull calling Mainstream and Plus with Carol Arsenault as cuer. Refreshments will be served from 7:45 on. $7 per person. Non-dancers welcome at no charge. FMI: Eleanor Herrick (782-4050).

JONES DANCE BAND; 7 to 10 p.m., Legion Hall, Church Street, South Paris. Playing old-fashioned dance music. Adults/$5.

Sunday, March 13

COUNTRY BREAKFAST; 7:30 to 11 a.m., Ordway Hall, Gould Academy, Church Street, Bethel. Hosted by Bethel Rotary. Adults $8 ($10 at the door), children $5. Proceeds benefit Rotary projects.

RESCHEDULED SKI/SNOWSHOE EVENT; 1 to 3 p.m., Akers Ski trails. Those not familiar with the trails will be given a guided tour at 1:30 from the Akers Ski Parking Lot in Andover Village. Meet at the lean-to between 1 and 3 p.m. There will be a bonfire, courtesy of Pineland Ski Club, and hot dogs and marshmallows will be available. All ages welcome.

OXFORD COUNTY DEMOCRATS MEETING; 2 p.m., Crescent Park School, Bethel. FMI: Cathy Newell (875-2116).

Wednesday, March 16

SENIORSPLUS; 2 to 4 p.m., Norway Town Office. Representatives will be on hand to answer any questions or concerns you may have about services and resources for older adults and adults with disabilities and their families. Free and open to the public. FMI/Appointments: 1-800-427-1241.

BEGINNER FLY TYING CLASSES; 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., Norway Public Library's Teen Rec Room. Presented by the Cancer Resource Center of Western Maine with the support of the Mollyockett Chapter of Trout Unlimited, these classes are free and all fly-tying tools and materials will be provided. Each session is stand-alone so anyone interested can attend any or all sessions.

UKRAINIAN EGG WORKSHOP; 6 to 8:30 p.m., Telstar High School. Learn the traditional craft of Ukrainian Easter Eggs (Pysanky) with instructor India Baker. We will learn the history, traditions, colors and symbols as well as the principles of wax resist method or dyeing. You will have the opportunity to design and create your own egg. All materials are supplied. Tuition: $35. FMI/Registration: 824-2136 ext. 1340 or http://sad44.maineadulted.org/.

MLT "INTO THE WOODS" PRESENTATION; 7 p.m., McLaughlin Auditorium, Gould Academy. The Mahoosuc Land Trust welcomes Chris O'Brien of the U.S. Forest Service, who will give an overview of wildland and prescribed fires in Maine and across the United States – or, as he says, "the yin and yang of wildland fire; balancing the science of fire with the art of experience." FMI: www.mahoosuc.org or 824-3806.

March 17, 24, 31 and April 7, 14 & 21

BALLROOM DANCING; 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., Crescent Park School. Have you always wanted to take a ballroom class or just want to refresh your memory? This class is perfect for you. This is a 6 week adult class. You will learn the basics of waltz, tango, cha-cha, and swing with instructor Bridget Whitman. Come with a partner and dance the night away and have a great time. Tuition: Singles $60, Couples $75. FMI/Registration: 824-2136 ext. 1340 or http://sad44.maineadulted.org/.

Thursday, March 17

WEBSITE VISIBILITY WORKSHOP; 9 to 10:30 a.m., Bethel Inn Resort, 21 Broad Street, Bethel. Topics covered include: What Search Engine Optimization (SEO) used to be and what it is now, factors that affect how well your site is ranked, basics of SEO, and more. Instructor: Alisa Meggison, Digital Marketing Manager for Nancy Marshall Communications. $25 for Oxford County Chamber Of Commerce members, $30 for businesses and nonprofits that are not chamber members. FMI/Registration: www.WMEDC.org or 739-6543.

STORY TIME AT THE BETHEL LIBRARY; 10 a.m., Bethel Library, 5 Broad Street (across from the Common). Read a story, sing, and play at the library. A parent or caregiver must accompany the child. FMI call the library at 824-2520.

PIZZA AND A MOVIE NIGHT; 5 to 9 p.m., Frank's Bar and Grille, Fall Line Condos, Sunday River. $10 includes a large slice of pizza, beverage and ski movie. Proceeds benefit the Ski Museum of Maine.

SHADAGEE RAMBLERS; 6 to 9 p.m., Open Mic and pizza night, Loose Boots Lounge, Mt. Abram.

OCSWCD INVASIVE INSECTS PRESENTATION; 7 p.m., Oxford Hills Comprehensive High School, Room 118E. This interactive presentation by Jean Federico will detail the threat to our area forests from several invasive insects that are on our doorstep already in Maine. FMI: Merle Ring (743-5976 or mring54@gmail.com).

Friday, March 18

"PAPER TIGERS" FREE SCREENING; 6 p.m., Leura Hill Eastman Performing Arts Center, 18 Bradley Street, Fryeburg. Paper Tigers is a compelling new documentary that explores the impact of adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) and captures the transformation of struggling teens as teachers use the latest developmental science and trauma-informed approaches to break the cycle of adversity in their lives. The film covers sensitive subject matter and may not be suitable for young children. Open to the public. Refreshments and childcare provided. Discussion to follow.

Saturday, March 19

ANNUAL WESTERN MAINE FLY FISHING EXPO; 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Bethel Inn Conference Center. Presented by the Mollyockett Chapter of Trout Unlimited – over 35 exhibitors, raffles, a silent auction, kids' fly tying table and presentations by four well-known guest speakers. Admission: $5 per person.

TURKEY SUPPER; 4:30 to 6 p.m., VFW Post 9787, Lower Main Street, South Paris. Sponsored by AMVETS Post 777. $8/adults, $4/kids 12 and under.

JONES DANCE BAND; 7 to 10 p.m., Legion Hall, Church Street, South Paris. Playing old-fashioned dance music. Adults/$5.

"BUSTIN' OUT THE BLUES" DANCE; 8 p.m. to midnight, Locke's Mills Legion Hall, 595 Gore Road. Bands: Way Back Machine and Ball Brothers. 50/50 and raffles. Proceeds to benefit Telstar Football Programs (youth through high school), equipment repair and upgrade.

Sunday, March 20

BASKET BINGO; 1 to 4 p.m. (doors open at noon), Locke's Mills Legion Hall. Featuring Longaberger and Peterborough baskets. Presale tickets are available for $10 at the Telstar High School office or at We've Got the Look in Locke's Mills. Tickets will be $15 at the door, $3 for additional cards. Proceeds benefit the Telstar High School softball team.

Monday, March 21

ESSENTIALS OF COLLEGE PLANNING FOR ADULTS 19 AND OVER; 10 a.m., Western Maine University and Community College Center, South Paris. FMI/Registration: 1-800-281-3703 or http://meoc.maine.edu. Free and open to the public.

Wednesday, March 23

BEGINNER FLY TYING CLASSES; 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., Norway Public Library's Teen Rec Room. Presented by the Cancer Resource Center of Western Maine with the support of the Mollyockett Chapter of Trout Unlimited, these classes are free and all fly-tying tools and materials will be provided. Each session is stand-alone so anyone interested can attend any or all sessions.

PIZZA NIGHT BUFFET; 6 to 8 p.m., Sunday River Brew Pub. $13 per person ($5 from each meal purchased will support the Telstar softball team).

Thursday, March 24

PIZZA AND A MOVIE NIGHT; 5 to 9 p.m., Frank's Bar and Grille, Fall Line Condos, Sunday River. $10 includes a large slice of pizza, beverage and ski movie. Proceeds benefit the Ski Museum of Maine.

SHADAGEE RAMBLERS; 6 to 9 p.m., Open Mic and pizza night, Loose Boots Lounge, Mt. Abram.

Friday, March 25

HOPE ASSOCIATION FUNDRAISER DANCE; 7 to 10 p.m., Rumford Eagles Club Function Hall. Music by Noel and Fawn. $5 cover charge. Proceeds benefit the Hope Association.

Saturday, March 26

TEXAS HOLD'EM TOURNAMENT; 12 p.m. (doors open at 11 a.m.), Jackson-Silver Post 68 American Legion, 595 Gore Road, Locke's Mills. $50 buy-in, $5 license, high hand option, 50/50, meals and beverages available. BYOB. New, large flat-screen display for timer and blinds. FMI: Ray, Post Commander (890-3737).

CORNED BEEF SUPPER; 4:30 to 6 p.m., VFW Post 9787; Lower Main Street, South Paris. Sponsored by AMVETS Post 777. $8/adults, $4/kids 12 and under.

JONES DANCE BAND; 7 to 10 p.m., Legion Hall, Church Street, South Paris. Playing old-fashioned dance music. Adults/$5.

Monday, March 28

SENIORSPLUS; 1 to 4 p.m., Fryeburg Public Library. Representatives will be on hand to answer any questions or concerns you may have about services and resources for older adults and adults with disabilities and their families. Free and open to the public. FMI/Appointments: 1-800-427-1241.

Wednesday, March 30

COMMUNITY SUPPER (NO CHARGE); 4:30 to 6 p.m., Bethel Alliance Church, 251 Walkers Mills Road (across from the Telstar parking lot). Call 207-824-2289 for more information.

BEGINNER FLY TYING CLASSES; 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., Norway Public Library's Teen Rec Room. Presented by the Cancer Resource Center of Western Maine with the support of the Mollyockett Chapter of Trout Unlimited, these classes are free and all fly-tying tools and materials will be provided. Each session is stand-alone so anyone interested can attend any or all sessions.

Thursday, March 31

Shadagee Ramblers; 6 to 9 p.m., Open Mic and pizza night, Loose Boots Lounge, Mt. Abram.

April 2, 9, 30 and May 7

FINNISH LANGUAGE CLASSES; Finnish-American Heritage Center, 8 Maple Street, West Paris. Marja-Leena Bailey will conduct the classes. $75 per person ($40 for additional family members). Please make out your checks to Finnish American Heritage Society and send them to the FinnAm at PO Box 294, West Paris, Maine 04289. Please include your email address and/or phone number. Refer any questions to Dale Piirainen at 461-3795.

Saturday, April 2

DEFENSIVE DRIVING CLASS; 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., Telstar High School, Room 133. This five-hour course will include discussion of collision avoidance techniques, safety issues, driver habits and attitudes and the basic elements that constantly challenge drivers on Maine's highways. The course format engages students with lectures, videos, and class discussion/participation. Those completing the course will receive a three-point credit on their driving record. This 5 hour class will help you develop better driving habits and insurance discounts are a possibility. $40 per person. Instructor: Ed Naples. FMI: 824-2136.

BOTTLE DRIVE AND CAR WASH; 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., SAD 44 Bus Garage. Bottles can be dropped off at the bus garage, or the softball team will come pick them up. Proceeds benefit the Telstar softball team. FMI: Jim Lunney (316-7960), Jen Merrill (357-7124), Fred Johnson (357-2892) or Donna Howard (357-5555).

BENEFIT SUPPER FOR THS STUDENT ALEXIS SING; 5 to 6:30 p.m., Jackson-Silver Post 68, 595 Gore Road, Locke's Mills. This supper is to raise funds to help with medical bills for Alexis Sing, who is currently in the Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital in Boston. Alexis is a 15 year old freshman at Telstar, and was found in a diabetic coma on Jan. 16, 2016. Swelling around her brain has caused loss of functional use of her right side. She is undergoing rehabilitation at the Boston facility, with her family traveling back and forth to aid in her recovery. The benefit will be a spaghetti feed. There will be a 50/50 drawing and a Chinese ticket auction. Tickets will be available at the door, and the drawing for items for the auction will be held at 6:30. FMI: Sheryl Morgan (890-5903) or Ellie Newell (890-7846).

Don't forget to turn your clocks ahead Sunday Morning!

MAR 10 2016

Regular meetings and support services

MUNICIPAL

Bethel Selectmen: Second Monday of the month, 7 p.m., Town Office.

Bethel Planning Board: Second and fourth Wednesdays of the month, 6 p.m., Town Office.

Bethel Water District: Third Tuesday of the month, 7 p.m., Town Office.

Gilead Selectmen: Second Wednesdays of the month, 6 p.m., Town Office

Gilead Planning Board: First Thursdays of the month, 7 p.m., Town Office.

Greenwood Selectmen: First and third Tuesdays of the month, 5 p.m., Town Office.

Hanover Selectmen: Third Tuesday of the month, 6 p.m. unless otherwise posted.

Hanover Planning Board: First Wednesday, 6 p.m.

Newry Selectmen: First and third Tuesdays of the month, 5 p.m., Town Office.

Newry Planning Board: First and third Wednesdays of the month, 7 p.m., Town Office.

Woodstock Selectmen: First and third Tuesdays, 5 p.m., Town Office.

Woodstock Planning Board: First and third Tuesdays, 7 p.m., Town Office

SAD 44 School Board: Second and/or fourth Monday of the month, 6:30 p.m., Telstar High School (occasionally meet at other schools; call 824-2185 for info or go to http://www.sad44.org/pages/MSAD_44_Bethel/School_Board).

ORGANIZATIONS

Andover

Mondays and Tuesdays, 4:30 p.m.: Andover Fitness Club, Andover Elementary School gym.

Bethel

First Sunday of month, 7 p.m.: Bethel Snow Twisters at 208 Walkers Mills Rd.

Third Sunday of each month, 9 a.m.: Breakfast open to the public at no charge at Bethel Church of the Nazarene.

Wednesdays, Yoga Classes with Yogamoto. Classes are held at 4:15 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. (no class Nov. 25) at the United Methodist Church Annex at 75 Main Street. Yogamoto is a donation-based nonprofit yoga practice. You pay what you can - suggested donation is $5-$15. Classes are one hour vinyasa flow and suitable to all skill levels. Proceeds are donated to local education. Private classes also available. FMI: www.yogamoto.com (207)200-3815 info@yogamoto.com

Last Wednesday of the month, 4:30 to 6 p.m:: Community Supper at Bethel Alliance Church. No charge. FMI: 207-824-2289.

Thursdays, 10 to 11 a.m.: Story Time for Children at Bethel Library (story plus craft) with participating mothers. October thru April. FMI: call 824-2520.

Second Thursday of the month, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; fourth Thursday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.: Cross Country Quilters of Pine Tree Quilt Guild of Maine meet at the Alliance Church on Route 26 in Bethel. All quilters welcome. FMI: e-mail Pat McCartney at p_quilts@yahoo.com or call 836-3575.

Third Thursday, Maine Mineral & Gem Museum holds Third Thursdays Tours & Talks. Winter months' feature presentations held in the Museum Store and Preview Gallery from 3-4:30 p.m. Summer months' feature tours at renowned regional geological sites. Summer times vary depending on tour location; check MMGM's website www.maineminералgemmuseum.org and its newsletter calendar.

Saturdays; Yoga Classes with Yogamoto. Classes are held at 8am and 9:30am at the United Methodist Church Annex at 75 Main Street. Yogamoto is a donation-based nonprofit yoga practice. You pay what you can - suggested donation is $5-$15. Classes are one hour vinyasa flow and suitable to all skill levels. Proceeds are donated to local education. Private classes also available. FMI: www.yogamoto.com (207)200-3815 info@yogamoto.com

Rumford

Fourth Thursday of the month: 5:30-7 p.m., Rumford Public Library Friends 4th Thursday Poetry Group.

Woodstock

Second Saturday of month, 6 p.m.: Woodstock Historical Society meeting at the museum.

West Paris

Tuesdays 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.: West Paris Baptist Church group to foster wellness for anyone searching for faith based support. The group is intended for those facing the challenges of grief, loss, addiction, codependency, and abuse issues. Light refreshments will be provided.

Norway

Wednesdays: Beginner Fly Tying Classes; 5:30-7:30 p.m. in the Teen Rec Room of the Norway Public Library weekly on Wednesdays through March 30. Presented by the Cancer Resource Center of Western Maine and the Mollyocket Chapter of Trout Unlimited. Classes are free and all fly tying tools and materials are provided. Each session is stand alone so anyone interested can attend any or all sessions.

Third Wednesday of the month: Women's Imaging Center, Stephens Memorial Hospital, Norway, offering professional prosthetic and bra fittings for women on For appointment call 743-5993 Ext. 6851.

Second Thursday of the month, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.: at the Harper Conference Center, Ripley Medical Office Building, 193 Main Street, Norway. Staying on Your Feet, a free one-time course for adults aged 60 and over. Course includes balance screening, blood pressure check, leg-strength measurement, and education on staying fit.

Fridays 9:15 a.m.: Oxford Hills Duplicate Bridge, Norway. For more information, call Les Buzzell at 783-4153 or 754-9153; or e-mail: buzz116@myfairpoint.net.

Hebron

Sundays 2:30 to 4:30 p.m.: Seasonal Public Skating, Robinson Arena, Hebron. Adults, $3/Children 12 and under, $2/WinterKids Passport holders, free. FMI: 966-2100.

SUPPORT SERVICES

SAFE Voices

24-hour hotline: 1-800-559-2927. Safe Voices serves all of Oxford County and provides emergency shelter, court advocacy and support groups with child care. Rumford office 369-0750; Norway office 743-5806.

AA meetings

Bethel Freedom Group: Open Discussion Meeting (seasonal, Thanksgiving through April 1) Saturdays at 4:30 in the Snow Cap Inn conference room, next to the fitness room, at Sunday River Resort. At United Methodist Church (Main Street, Bethel): Big Book Meeting Sundays at 6 p.m. 12 Step/Traditions Meeting, Tuesdays at 6 p.m. Candlelight Discussion Meeting Fridays at 6 p.m.

Cancer Support

Northern Vista at Home Senior Care offers a free shuttle service to those going to re-occuring chemo or radiation appointments at St. Mary's or Central Maine Medical Center in Lewiston. To schedule a ride call Gerry McCann, director at 207-836-2173.

Every Thursday, 1:30 to 3 p.m.: Rumford Hospital, Room 357. (877) 336-7287. Support and Education for cancer patients, survivors and caregivers. Call to confirm in stormy weather.

Exchanges/Pantries

Clothing Exchange: Bethel Park, 23 Mason Street, Bethel. Hours: Monday 1 to 4, Thursday 4 to 6, Saturday, 10 to 12. Donations of gently-used clothing only accepted during open hours. No exceptions. 824-4090. Clothing may also be dropped off at Northeast Bank on Main Street.

Bethel Food Pantry: serves residents of Albany, Andover, Bethel, East Bethel, West Bethel, Bryant Pond, Gilead, Greenwood, Hanover, Locke's Mills, Mason Township, Newry, Upton, and Woodstock. The Food Pantry is open on the second Monday of each month from noon until 8 p.m. Anyone who needs food should come during those hours, without appointment. The Food Pantry is located in the basement of the Nazarene Church, 16 Church Street in Bethel by the side entrance on Park Street. (Donations should be left on porch at 57 Elm Street. Questions, contact Dave Bean at beand@gouldacademy.org or 207-824-0369.)

Help for the Homeless

Rumford Group Homes, Inc.: operates three homeless shelters, a Maternity Group Home program for homeless pregnant and parenting youth ages 18-21 and Case Management services. Emergency shelter services include the South Paris Men's Shelter, the Norway Family Center for women and their children and the Rumford Family Center for homeless families. To make a referral or to request assistance, please call 743-6363 in the Norway area or 369-9439 in the Rumford area Monday through Friday from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. For more information about Rumford Group Homes, Inc., call 364-3551 or visit www.rumfordgrouphomes.org.

Lyme Disease

First Wednesday of the month, 6:30-8 p.m.: Lyme Disease Support & Education Group at Beacon House Peer Center, 3 Canal St. Rumford. FMI: 357-1926 or 824-3076.

Mental illness

Beacon House Social Club: 150 Congress Street, Rumford, a drop-in social club for adults suffering with mental, emotional, or physical illness, provides support, relaxation, and socialization. Monday 1 to 5 p.m.; Tuesday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Wednesday 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Wednesday 3 to 8 p.m.; Friday 2 to 7 p.m.; Saturday 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Oxford County Mental Health Services, support for adults and children with mental illness, same location, second floor, open Monday-Friday 8 a.m to 4 p.m. For more information, call 364-3549 or (800) 335-9999, or in off-hours 928-3222.

Veterans' Services

Maine Veterans Home, S. Paris: Veterans' Advocate visits first and third Wednesday each month, 9-12 noon (743-6300); Rumford 9 to 12 noon second Thursday at VA Clinic at 431 Franklin St. (369-3272). Maine Veterans' Services is located at 29 Westminster St., Lewiston (783-5306). (No visits in July)

Multiple services

Community Concepts: provides Oxford County Head Start, childcare, free rides to Maine Care appointments, subsidized apartments (Bethel, Brownfield, Fryeburg, Norway, Rumford, South Paris), affordable homeownership opportunities, homeless shelter and assistance with home heating or weatherizing. FMI: call (800) 866-5588 or visit www.community-concepts.org.

Alzheimer's Support Group: meets the 3rd Wednesday of every month from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Rumford Community Home located at 11 John F. Kennedy Lane. All are welcome. For more information call Sue Ellen Richardson, Social Service Director or Terry Drury, Residential Director at 364-7863.

Brain injury support

Brain Injury Suppport Group: for individuals with brain injuries and their families. West Side NeuroRehab, 618 Main St., Lewiston. First Monday of the month, 6 to 8 p.m. FMI: Deb Hammer 795-6110.

LIBRARY HOURS

Andover Library: Tuesday, Wednesday, and Saturday 1 to 4:30 pm; Thursday 1 to 4:30 & 6 to 8 p.m. Tel: 392-4841.

Bethel Library: Monday 9 to 1; Tuesday 1-5; Wednesday 1 to 8; Thursday & Friday 1 to 5 Saturday, 9 to 1. Story Hour Thursdays, 9 to 10 a.m., October to May. Tel: 824-2520.

Whitman Memorial Library, Bryant Pond: Tel: 665-2505. Tuesday and Thursday, 1 to 5 p.m.

West Paris Library, West Paris: Monday 1:30 to 6; Wednesday 1:30 to 7; Friday 1:30 to 6; Saturday 10 to 2. Patty Makley, Librarian. Tel: 674-2004

Gardner Roberts Memorial Library, Hanover: Wednesday, 9 to 3; Thursday, 5 to 8; Saturday, 9 to noon.

MAR 10 2016

Puzzles4Kids

by Helene Hovanec

CODED RIDDLE

Change each letter to the one that comes immediately BEFORE it in the alphabet to find a riddle and its answer.

Here's a copy of the alphabet to guide you:

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

XIBU EP ZPV HFU JG ZPV

UFBS B TDBSG JO UXP?

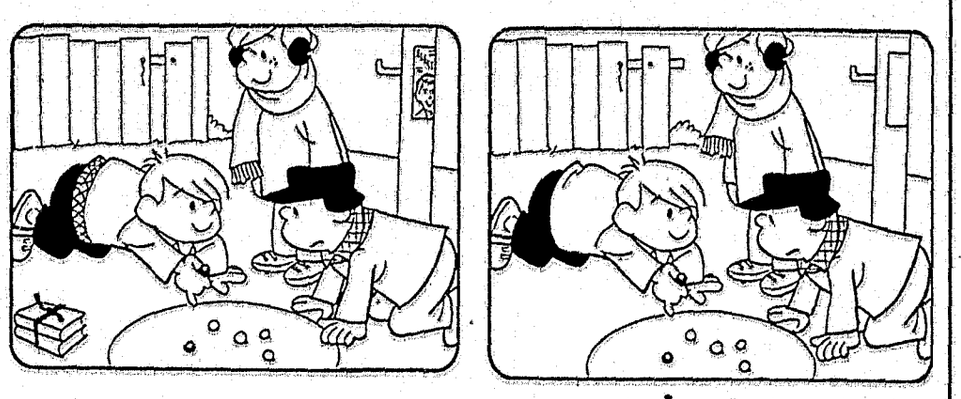
B CBOEBOB TQMJU.

For more puzzle fun, go to www.brainzzles.com

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences:
1. Sweater ribbing is missing. 2. Books are missing. 3. Fence board is missing. 4. Scarf is shorter. 5. Poster is missing. 6. Arm is moved.

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CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: **K** equals **E**

NCDAKQW ZP DZFLNCJ AOKDK OQIW FZJNY HIZXFKVD CZG, GK YOZDK AZ DQLK AOKV PZI Q XIQNCE WQE.

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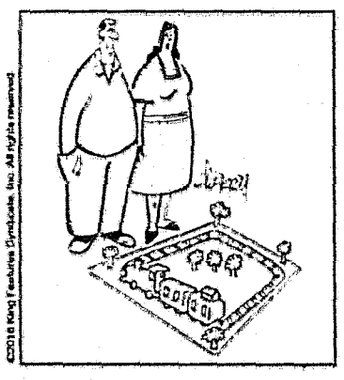
SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!



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Lasting — BLEATS

Method — CORPSES

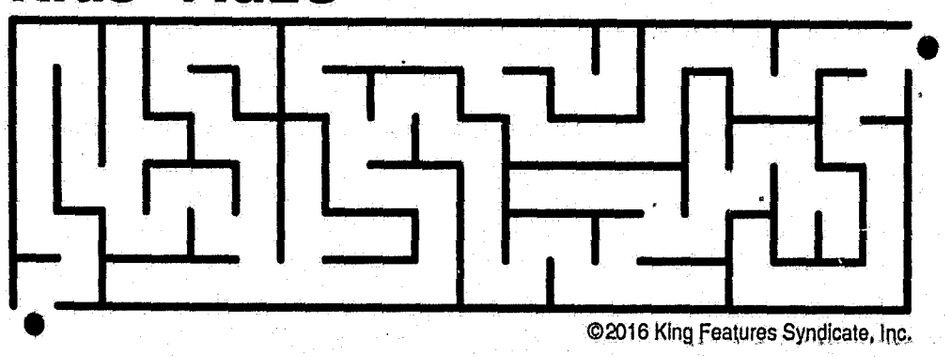
Tumult — CORDIDS

Normal — TOURINE

"And we thought our boy was eating all his _____ !"

TODAY'S WORD

Kids' Maze



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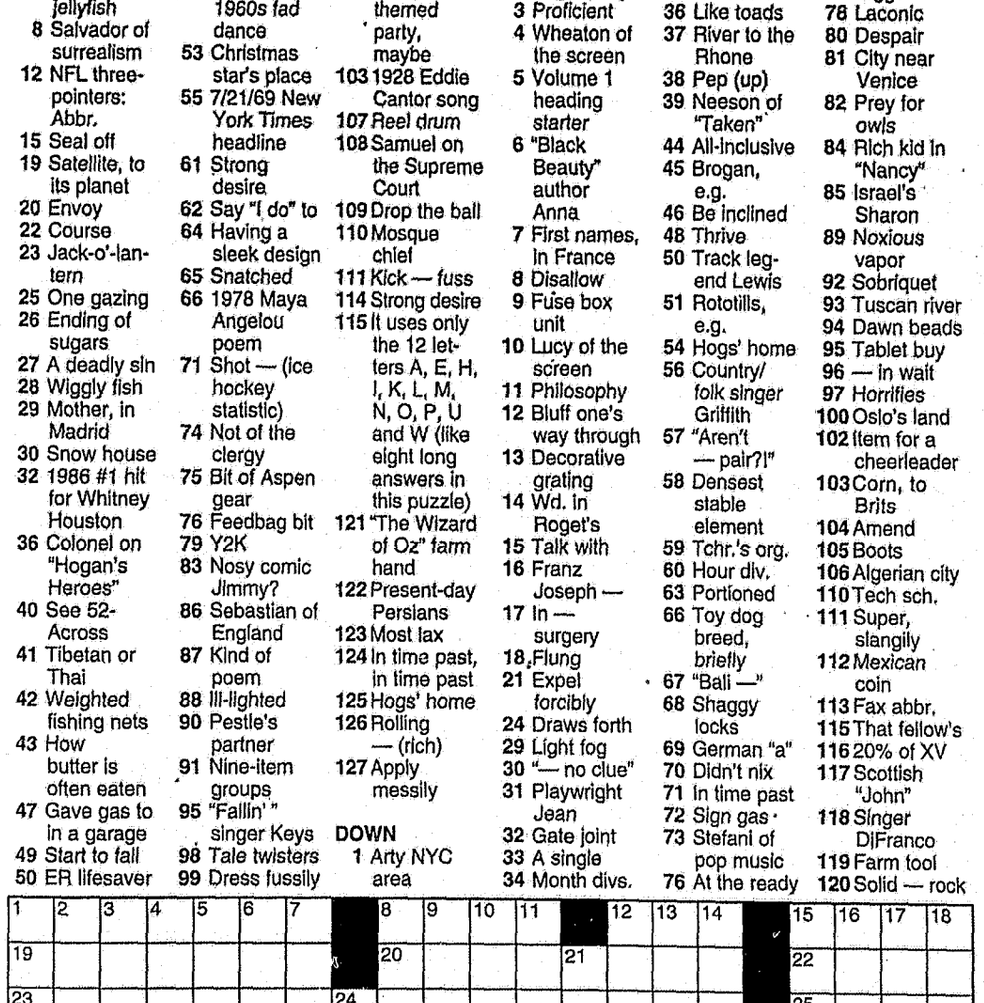
Super Crossword

A DOZEN TO CHOOSE FROM

ACROSS
1 Stinging box jellyfish
8 Salvador of surrealism
12 NFL three-pointers: Abbr.
15 Seal off
19 Satellite, to its planet
20 Envoy
22 Course
23 Jack-o'-lantern
25 One gazing
26 Ending of sugars
27 A deadly sin
28 Wiggly fish
29 Mother, in Madrid
30 Snow house
32 1986 #1 hit for Whitney Houston
36 Colonel on "Hogan's Heroes"
40 See 52-Across
41 Tibetan or Thai
42 Weighted fishing nets
43 How butter is often eaten
47 Gave gas to in a garage
49 Start to fall
50 ER lifesaver
52 With 40-Across, 1960s fad dance
53 Christmas star's place
55 7/21/69 New York Times headline
61 Strong desire
62 Say "I do" to
64 Having a sleek design
65 Snatched
66 1978 Maya Angelou poem
71 Shot — (ice hockey statistic)
74 Not of the clergy
75 Bit of Aspen gear
76 Feedbag bit
79 Y2K
83 Nosy comic Jimmy?
86 Sebastian of England
87 Kind of poem
88 Ill-lighted
90 Pestle's partner
91 Nine-item groups
95 "Fallin' " singer Keys
98 Tale twisters
99 Dress fussily
101 Dessert at a tropical-themed party, maybe
103 1928 Eddie Cantor song
107 Reel drum
108 Samuel on the Supreme Court
109 Drop the ball
110 Mosque chief
111 Kick — fuss
114 Strong desire
115 It uses only the 12 letters A, E, H, I, K, L, M, N, O, P, U and W (like eight long answers in this puzzle)
121 "The Wizard of Oz" farm hand
122 Present-day Persians
123 Most lax
124 In time past, in time past
125 Hogs' home
126 Rolling — (rich)
127 Apply messily

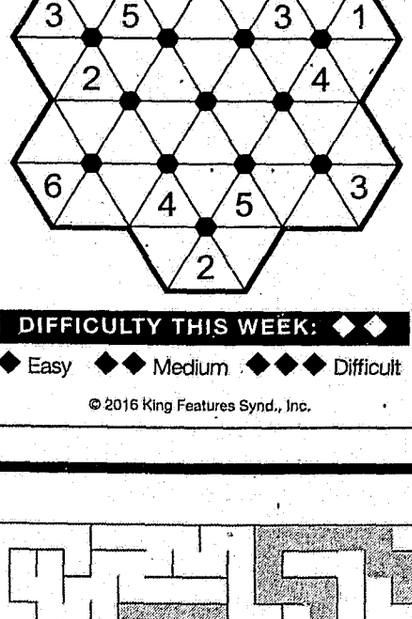
DOWN
1 Arty NYC area
2 Lengthy reigns, say
3 Proficient
4 Wheaton of the screen
5 Volume 1 heading starter
6 "Black Beauty" author Anna
7 First names, in France
8 Disallow
9 Fuse box unit
10 Lucy of the screen
11 Philosophy
12 Bluff one's way through
13 Decorative grating
14 Wd. in Roget's
15 Talk with
16 Franz Joseph —
17 In — surgery
18 Flung
21 Expel forcibly
24 Draws forth
29 Light fog
30 "— no clue"
31 Playwright Jean
32 Gate joint
33 A single
34 Month divs.
35 Jeremy of basketball
36 Like toads
37 River to the Rhone
38 Pep (up)
39 Neeson of "Taken"
44 All-inclusive
45 Brogan, e.g.
46 Be inclined
48 Thrive
50 Track legend Lewis
51 Rototills, e.g.
54 Hogs' home
56 Country/folk singer Griffith
57 "Aren't — pair?!"
58 Densest stable element
59 Tchr.'s org.
60 Hour div.
63 Portioned
66 Toy dog breed, briefly
67 "Bali —"
68 Shaggy locks
69 German "a"
70 Didn't nix
71 In time past
72 Sign gas
73 Stefani of pop music
76 At the ready
77 Early arcade biggie
78 Laconic
80 Despair
81 City near Venice
82 Prey for owls
84 Rich kid in "Nancy"
85 Israel's Sharon
89 Noxious vapor
92 Sobriquet
93 Tuscan river
94 Dawn beads
95 Tablet buy
96 — in wait
97 Horrifies
100 Oslo's land
102 Item for a cheerleader
103 Corn, to Brits
104 Amend
105 Boots
106 Algerian city
110 Tech sch.
111 Super, slangily
112 Mexican coin
113 Fax abbr.
115 That fellow's
116 20% of XV
117 Scottish "John"
118 Singer DiFranco
119 Farm tool
120 Solid — rock



SNOWFLAKES

by Japheth Light

There are 13 black hexagons in the puzzle. Place the numbers 1 - 6 around each of them. No number can be repeated in any partial hexagon shape along the border of the puzzle.



DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆

◆ Easy ◆◆ Medium ◆◆◆ Difficult

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

9				1			5	
		6	3					7
	5				4	8		
	8				6			9
		3		4		2		
2			5				7	
		4		2		3		
	1				5		9	
6			9					8

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging ★★★ HOO BOY!

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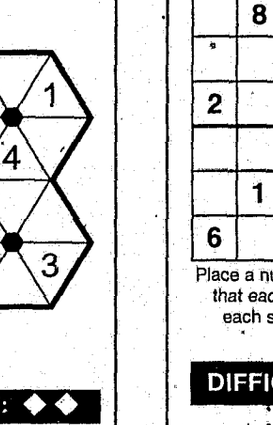
ANSWERS:

Kids' Maze solution

SCRAMBLERS
solution
1. Stable; 2. Process; 3. Discord; 4. Routine
Today's Word
BROCCOLI
answer
Instead of solving these hard logic problems now, we chose to save them for a brainy day.

CryptoQuip
What do you get if you tear a scarf in two?
A bandana split.

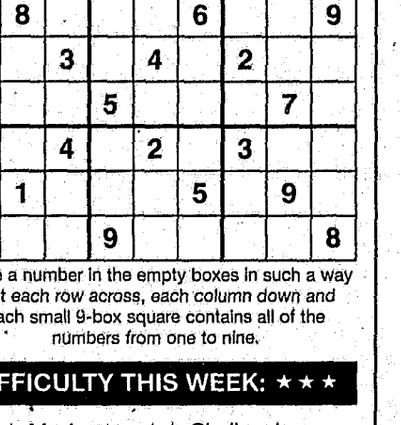
SNOWFLAKES solution



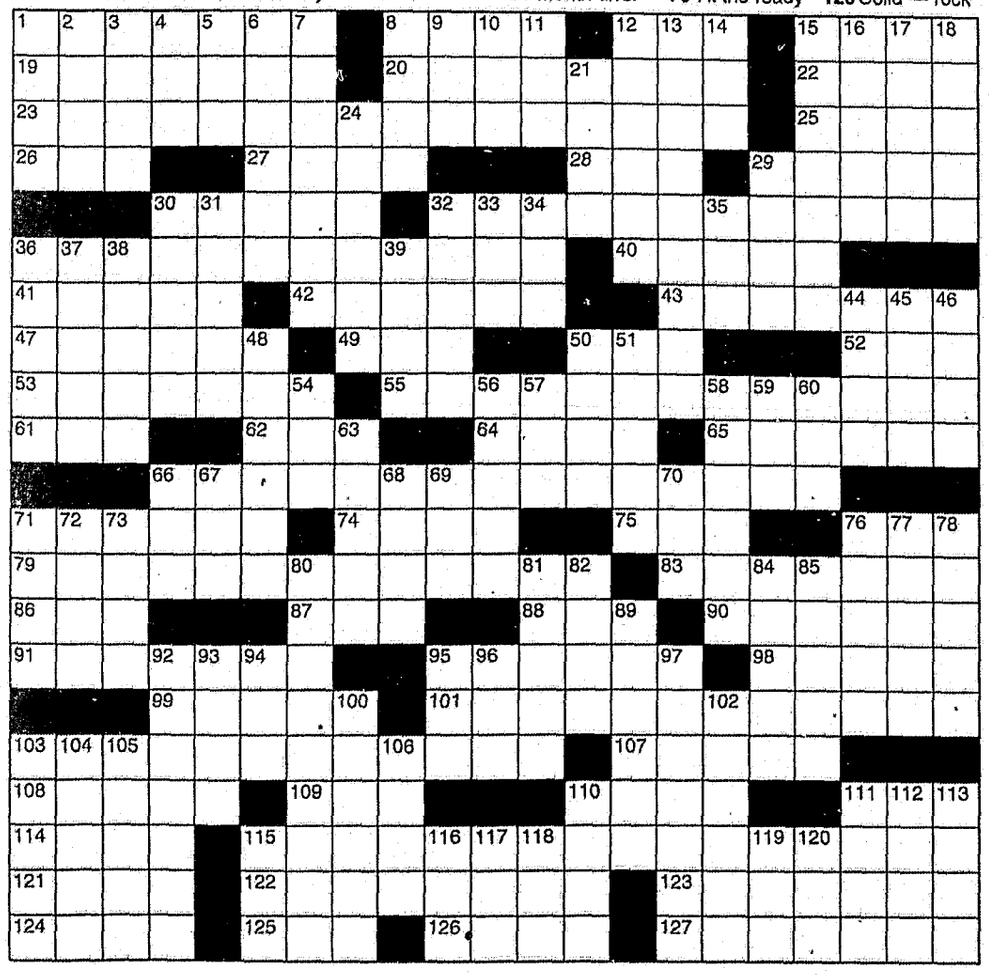
Weekly SUDOKU Answer

9	3	2	7	1	8	6	5	4
8	4	6	3	5	2	9	1	7
1	5	7	6	9	4	8	2	3
4	8	1	2	7	6	5	3	9
5	7	3	1	4	9	2	8	6
2	6	9	5	8	3	4	7	1
7	9	4	8	2	1	3	6	5
3	1	8	4	6	5	7	9	2
6	2	5	9	3	7	1	4	8

Super Crossword Answers



Puzzles4Kids Answer



MAR 10 2016

Sports

High School Nordic Skiing

U16/Eastern High School Qualifier; March 5-The Telstar Nordic team competed in the U16/Eastern High School Qualifier race. Four skiers from Telstar made the Maine state teams: Gaelen Boyle-Wight (U16 team), Ricco Call (U16 team), Marta Opie (U16 team) and Carla Boyle-Wight (Eastern High School team). The U16 Championships will be held at Black Mountain in Rumford, March 11-13. The Eastern High School Championships will be held at Rickert Nordic Center in Ripton, Vt., March 18-20.

Mt. Valley Rec Basketball

With first-place Laid Back Installers laid back in waiting the first round of games, Tommy Guns (2 seed), Archies(3 seed) and The Crew(4 seed) all advanced in this past week's games. This pits Tommy Guns against Archies in game 1 at 10 a.m. and LBI hosting The Crew in the game 2 at 11:30 a.m. on March 13 in semi-final action at Mountain Valley High School. The Crew (8-5) hosted Bethel (5 seed, 5-8) in the first game of the day in what appeared to be the best match up and it didn't disappoint. The game was a back and forth battle for most of the game, tied at 39 at half time and close until The Crew's athleticism was too much for Bethel to overcome part way through the second half, winning 92-80.

The Crew was led by Ricky White with 24 points, Justin Cocroft with 23 points (6 threes), Deion Cheers 18 points and a solid floor game and Cliff Turner with 15 points(4 threes). Bethel's Ryan Savage had 21 points (4 threes), JT Taylor 16 and Ryan Kimball and Dom Haines 11 each to lead their team.

In game two, Archies (8-5) had too much fire power for M and M Carpentry(6th seed, 5-8) and took over the game in the middle of the first half and cruised to a 104-83 victory. Archies' Cody St. Germain was dominant throughout the game and led his team with 30 points, going 12 for 12 from the foul line. Ben Ryerson hit 6 threes and 20 points, Glen Dubois nailed 5 more threes and 19 points and Craig Derouche added 18 more. M and M was led by Matt Newell with 29 points and supported by Jason Holdbrook with 17, Wayne Campbell with 15 and Joe Gaudreau 12 (4 threes).

Nordic skiers from Telstar High School who qualified for the Maine state teams: Gaelen Boyle-Wight (U16 team), Ricco Call (U16 team), Marta Opie (U16 team) and Carla Boyle-Wight (Eastern High School team). *Submitted photo*

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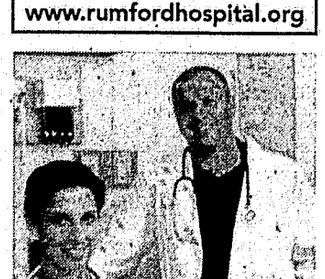

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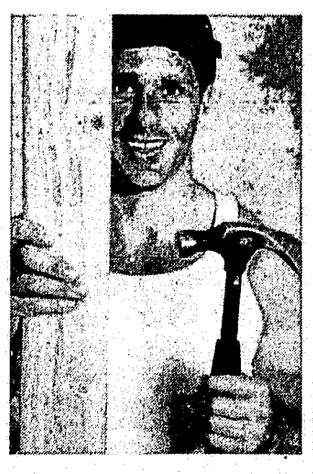

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SUNDAY RIVER SKI TICKET: no restrictions, $89 value, will sell for $69. Good through December 25, 2016. 836-2677.

VINYL WHITE DOUBLE HUNG WINDOW, 32"x36" with screen, fairly new, $180. Call 207-357-3441.

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FOR RENT: Furnished, heated 1 bedroom apartment in Hanover. 5 minutes from Sunday River Ski Resort. No smoking, no pets. 824-3342.

FOR RENT: TWO 2nd FLOOR APARTMENTS in town Bethel. Available April 1st. Seasonal or long-term. Good pets welcome. Non-smoking building. 824-2336 or 824-2362.

GREENWOOD: 3 Bedroom house for rent. $775/month plus utilities, please provide references. New paint, floors, insulation. Washer/dryer. Nice yard. Nonsmokers. No pets. 207-890-1106.

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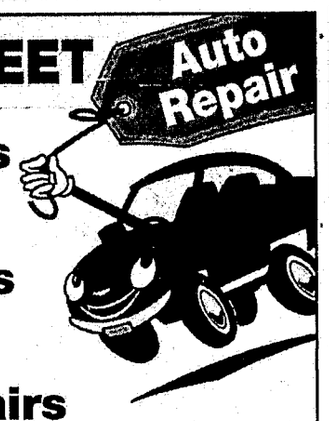

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The Greenwood Board of Selectmen is seeking residents wishing to volunteer their time to serve on Town Boards and Committees. Below is a list of opportunities. In order to be considered, citizens must complete an application and have a brief interview with the Board of Selectmen.

Current openings:

Board of Appeals:
1 Regular member/2 Alternate members

Planning Board:
2 Alternate members

MSAD 44 Cost Sharing Committee:
2 Regular members

Deadline for application: March 18, 2016
Applications are available at the Greenwood Town Office, 593 Gore Road, Greenwood, or email request to kimsparks@roadrunner.com

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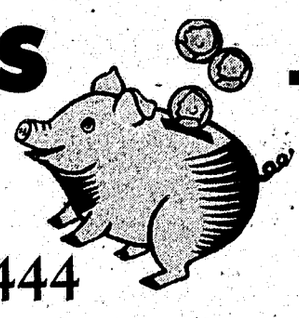

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MAR 10 2016

Church Services

ALBANY

Congregational Church - Hunts Corner, 9:30 a.m. Sunday worship and Sunday School at 9 a.m.; Pastor Laird Bean. Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Thursdays at the home of Fernand Corriveau.

ANDOVER

First Congregational Church - Linda Couture, pastor. Sunday morning worship 10 to 11 a.m., followed by brunch. All welcome. FMI: 392-3761.

Calvary Bible Church- Sunday School 9:30 a.m.; Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m.; Wednesday Prayer Meeting 6:30 p.m. 1063 South Main St. 392-1121.

BETHEL

Bethel Alliance Church - 251 Walker's Mills Rd, Rev. Kevin Bellinger, Senior Pastor and Nicholas Lutzo, Youth Pastor. Sundays: 9 a.m. Sunday School for adults; 10 a.m. Worship Service (Nursery care and Children's Church are available). Thursdays: 5-7 p.m. Middle and High School Youth Group. FMI: 207-824-2289.

Bethel Church of the Nazarene - 16 Church Street, Bethel. Sunday School, 9:30 (for all ages). Pastor Peter Carter. The third Sunday of every month at 9 a.m. breakfast open to the public, no charge. Morning Worship 10:30. Wednesday evening 6 p.m. Prayer and Bible Study. FMI, transportation or prayer please contact Juanita Korhonen 665-2528.

Bethel Episcopal House Church - Bethel House Church meets the third Sunday of each month at 3 p.m. The location will rotate among member homes and the Intervale Meeting House, and The Rev. Nancy Moore from Christ Episcopal, Norway, leads the service and Eucharist. All are invited. FMI contact Rosemary Laban at 850-766-1241 or Christ Episcopal Church at 207-743-6782.

BETHEL cont.

Roman Catholic Church of the Holy Savior, Our Lady of the Snows - 265 Walkers Mills Road (Route 26). Fr. Gregory Dube may be reached at the parish office 364-4556. Saturday Mass, 6 p.m. Announcements. 824-2933.

West Parish Congregational - Church Street. Rev. Timothy LeConey. Sundays: 10 a.m. worship and Sunday School Sept.-May. Tuesdays: 8:30 a.m., informal Prayer Group with coffee in the Chapel. All are welcome. First Wednesday of the month: 8 a.m., Mens' Breakfast Group. Entrance in rear of church. All events open to everyone. This is an open and affirming congregation. FMI: 824-2689.

United Methodist - 79 Main Street. Pastor Carol Stevens. Sunday worship service 9 a.m. 824-2027.

West Bethel Union - Morning worship and 9 a.m. Sunday School. FMI: 836-3533.

Pleasant Valley Bible - Pastor Dave Fraher. Sunday Services: Sunday School, 9 a.m.; Worship Service, 10 a.m. Ladies Bible study Tuesday, 2:30 p.m. Midweek Bible study and prayer, Wednesday 6 p.m. Awana Club Fridays 3:30 to 5 p.m. (Cubbies ages 3/4; Sparks Grades K-2; children may take bus from school). FMI: 836-2828. Visit us on Facebook.

Seventh Day Adventist Fellowship - Meets at the Nazarene Church on Saturdays, on Church Street in Bethel. Sabbath School 9:30 a.m.; Worship, 11 a.m. FMI: 357-7814.

EAST STONEHAM

Oxford County United Parish Churches in Stoneham and North Waterford - Services at 10 a.m. at the North Waterford Congregational Church (UCC), located on the Five Kezars Road, off Routes 35 & 37, opposite Melby's Market. (North Waterford and East Stoneham Congregational Churches will hold their joint services in the church on Route 5 in East Stoneham during May.) Services held at North Waterford through the winter months. Choir practice 9 a.m., followed by Bible Study at 9:15 a.m.

LOCKE'S MILLS

Locke Mills Union - Pastor Sondra Withey. Sunday Morning Service and Sunday School, 9 to 10 a.m. Choir practice at the church every Friday at 6:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome. 875-3355.

NORTH WATERFORD/ STONEHAM

Oxford County United Parish (North Waterford and East Stoneham) - Summer services at 9 a.m. in the North Waterford Church on Route 35 across from Melby's Eatery. On July 20 a special--and casual!--church service will be held on the Fairgrounds during the Waterford World's Fair, with shuttle service available on site. In September, services will return to the East Stoneham Church, Route 5, and the regular hour of 10. All are welcome.

NORWAY /PARIS

First Church of Christ, Scientist - Sunday service 10 a.m., Wednesday Testimony service 7:30 p.m. 5 Morrill Rd/Rt. 118 (catercorner to Norway Country Club), Norway. Call 207-890-9944 FMI or ride.

Trinity Lutheran Church - Route 117, South Paris. Pastor Nancy Moore. Sunday morning service 11 a.m. with coffee, refreshments and good fellowship.

North Paris Federation- Morse Hill Road, North Paris. Sunday Service 8 a.m. Singsperation third Sunday each month alternating with West Paris Baptist Church at 7 p.m. FMI: 689-8000.

Oxford Hills Friends (Quakers) - Sunday worship 9:30 a.m. at HOPE Ripley Center, High Street, South Paris across the park from the Post Office. FMI: call Ursula Brandon at 665-2880 or Sue Reilly at 966-2012.

Christ Episcopal Church - 35 Paris St., Norway. Services Sunday at 9 a.m. and Wednesday at 9 a.m. Holy Eucharist. 743-6782; e-mail christch@megalink.net.

First Baptist Church of Paris - On the Common at the top of Paris Hill. 10:30 a.m. worship service. Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. Coffee hour follows the service. Fellowship lunch held the first Sunday of each month following worship. Pastor Ron Blake. FMI 743-2491.

St. Catherine's - Saturday 4 p.m. Vigile Mass; Sunday 8:30 a.m. Mass. FMI 743-2606.

Unitarian Universalist Church of Norway - 11 a.m. worship. (Sept. - June) Child care is provided. Religious education classes 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. FMI 743-2828.

GORHAM, N.H.

Assembly of God - Pastor Paul Levigen. Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Sunday service 10:30 a.m., Sunday evening service 7 p.m., Wednesday Bible Study 7 p.m. FMI: 603-466-2851.

Gorham Congregational Church - Sunday morning worship, 10 a.m. All welcome; free coffee. Communion is celebrated the first Sunday of each month. FMI: 603-466-2136.

OXFORD

St. Mary's - Saturday 4 p.m. Vigile Mass. 276 King St. Oxford.

Our Lady of Ransom: Sunday 10:30 a.m. Mass.

RUMFORD

St. Barnabas Episcopal Church - Worship Service, 9:30 a.m. Special holidays will be announced. Stone church at the rotary. 364-2193.

Roman Catholic Church of the Holy Savior, St. Athansius and St. John - 125 Main Ave. Monday Liturgy of the word 8 a.m.; Tuesday Mass 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday Liturgy of the word 8 a.m.; Wednesday Mass 9 a.m.; Friday Mass 8 a.m.; Saturday Mass 4 p.m.; Saturday Mass 6 p.m.

Praise Assembly of God - Pastor Justin Thacker. 89 Congress St. Adult and teen Sunday school 9 a.m. Sunday worship service at 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Wednesday night Bible study 6:45 p.m. FMI: 364-3856.

RUMFORD PT

Rumford Point Church - Sunday service, 8:30 a.m., followed by coffee and refreshments.

SUMNER

East Sumner Congregational- Linda Kimball, pastor. Sunday service, 9 a.m. 207-388-2610.

WEST PARIS

First Universalist Church-208 Main St., W. Paris. 9 a.m. services September to June. FMI: Bob Clifford 674-3442.

West Paris Baptist - 15 Church St. Sunday Worship-9:45 a.m.; Sunday School- 11 a.m.; Word of Life Youth- 6 p.m. Word of Life Olympians (kids club) -6 p.m. Wednesday. Ladies' Bible Study- Monday, 6:30 p.m. Food pantry for West Paris residents, first and third Tuesdays of month, 1-3 p.m. Pastor Scott Randolph, 376-6854.

Mission Congregational Church - Wallace Farnum, pastor. Sunday Worship 8:30 a.m.

WOODSTOCK

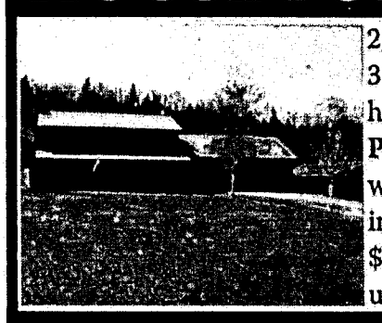
Bryant Pond Baptist - Pastor Matt Jones, Sundays: Sunday School 9:15 a.m.; Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.; Evening Service 6 p.m.; Mid-week Service Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m.

Woodstock Seventh day Adventist - Pastor Greg Carlson 207-527-2551, Saturday: 9:20am Sabbath school. 11am worship service.

Pinhook Meeting House (Rt. 232, North Woodstock) - Hymn Sing, last Friday of each month, 7 p.m. All welcome.

Mahoosuc Mountain Friends - a worship group meeting in the unprogrammed tradition of Friends (Quakers) - Sundays, 9:30 a.m. at the Whitman Memorial Library, Bryant Pond. Newcomers welcome. FMI: 824-8669.

HOUSE FOR RENT



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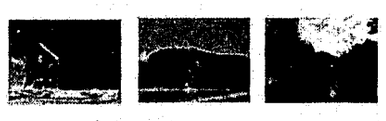

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Bethel GIS maps now online

The Bethel town website now offers online GIS maps with tax assessing information and land use "layers."

Site visitors may search for property parcels by owner name or address, and also search for property abutters.

Users may also select a portion of a map and zoom in, then overlay with map information such as wetlands, Shoreland Zoning, deer wintering areas, sewer lines and other features. Go to www.bethelmaine.org.

Seniors Plus seeks input

SeniorsPlus, the Area Agency on Aging for Androscoggin, Franklin, and Oxford counties, is holding three public hearings on their 2016-2020 Area Plan, outlining their plan to serve the older adult and adults with disabilities populations over the next four years.

The public is invited and comments are welcome.

Area Plan on Aging Public Hearing Dates and Locations: Thursday, March 24 at 10 a.m., SeniorsPlus Education Center, 8 Falcon Road, Lewiston; Friday, March 25 at 10 a.m., Chisholm Room, Franklin Memorial Hospital, Farmington; Friday, March 25 at 1:30 p.m., Norway Town Office, Norway.

An advanced draft plan can be reviewed on our website between March 8 and March 25, 2016 or you may pick up a copy at our office at 8 Falcon Road in Lewiston.

Written comments should be mailed to SeniorsPlus, 8 Falcon Road, Lewiston Maine, 04240, and must be received on or before April 4, 2016

For more information, visit www.seniorsplus.org or call 1-800-427-1241.

Established in 1972, SeniorsPlus is the Western Maine designated Agency on Aging covering Franklin, Oxford and Androscoggin counties. The overall program goal of SeniorsPlus, which is headquartered in Lewiston, is to assist older adults and adults with disabilities in Franklin, Oxford and Androscoggin counties to remain safely at home for as long as possible.

The mission of SeniorsPlus is to enrich the lives of seniors and adults with disabilities. SeniorsPlus believes in supporting the independence, dignity and quality of life of those we serve.

In Norway March 16

SeniorsPlus will be at the Norway Town Office March 16 from 2 p.m.-4 p.m .and Fryeburg Library March 28 from 1 pm to 4 pm. We will be on hand to answer any questions or concerns you may have about services and resources for older adults and adults with disabilities and their families.

All events are free and open to the public. For further information and to make an appointment, call SeniorsPlus at 1-800-427-1241.

Prime Time Ski Club news

The skiing at Sunday River ski area continues to offer changing conditions every day and even throughout the day. Some of our Prime Time Ski Club members, especially those who just come for the day or even those who have places on the mountain, have stayed away because of the weather report.

However, our club members who ski most days irregardless of conditions are sometimes pleasantly surprised like on a few days last week when warm weather moved in and the conditions became soft and fun to ski.

The next few days after the thaw proved more challenging as the temperature got colder and the snow got scratchier. In that case a few members found a trail they liked and stayed there, skiing it over and over again.

After last week's five inches of heavy snow, topped with freezing rain, some members found the best skiing on the trails at South Ridge which had been groomed just before opening. Even some of the club's better skiers had fun on the green terrain although they are probably not willing to admit it or want others to know.

The day after the snow, many members reported one of the best skiing days of the season.

Despite the dismal weather reports, Sunday River continues to make snow and opened up about 15 additional trails this past week that had not previously been opened this season, including the Oz area. You never know what the ski conditions will be like. So much depends on Sunday River's excellent snowmaking and grooming.

No matter what the forecast, it's probably best to give skiing a try if you live on the mountain and maybe even if you have to drive here. On one day when most of our club members stopped skiing at noon because of challenging conditions, there was an impromptu game of Mexican Train that afternoon. Socializing can sometimes take the place of skiing — just a different way of having fun.

Speaking of fun, the Maine Adaptive Sports and Recreation's 31st Annual Ski-A-Thon, SNOWDEO! 2016, will be held on Saturday, March 19, with lots of fun activities planned for participants, team members, volunteers and all other skiers and riders on the mountain. A number of our members will be volunteering that day to assist with the major fundraiser for an organization that is the largest, free year-round adaptive recreation program in Maine, offering downhill and cross country skiing, snowboarding, alpine racing and snowshoeing in the winter as well as golf, cycling, paddling, fishing, hiking and tennis during the summer.

Several of our club members are among the more than 400 volunteers who donate their time and expertise to provide some 3,800 lessons throughout the year. For more information on Maine Adaptive and ski-a-thon activities, check out the website at www.maineadaptive.org.

No matter what the conditions, it's always best to ski with another person for both safety and fun. So why not join Prime Time Ski Club members for a fun, mid-week ski if you are 50 or older. Club members meet at 10 a.m. at North Peak Lodge, upper level to the right, just beyond the bar. Some members also meet at 8:30 a.m. or so in the Mahoosuc Room at South Ridge base lodge to boot up and get to the lifts as soon as they open at 9.

Check out our website at www.primetimeskiclub.com and plan to join us for some fun runs or fun social events.

Backyard reflections

By SARA WRIGHT

The Deer, the Fox and the American Mink

I have had a bounty of animal sightings this winter beginning with the deer who roam around here all day long from dawn through dusk and into the night. When I walk my dogs after dark we often meet an irate deer who snorts in disapproval because we have interrupted his browsing! A couple of days ago I counted 27 deer arriving in mid-afternoon for their feed. Dr. Mason and his daughter Stephanie have seen to it that these animals are well fed by providing me with enough deer grain for this entire winter. This selfless act of generosity on the part of "the deer man" and his "deer" daughter cannot go unmentioned!

I have seen as many as 30 whitetails at one time during the last couple of months and they certainly aren't afraid of me. After finishing their food they casually stroll up to the birdfeeder to demolish the rest of the seed. If I go out to complain my old doe just stands there and stamps her feet while staring me down. The others will move away but always at a leisurely pace. Their tracks are everywhere indicating that the deer have been moving around all winter. Usually once the cold weather hits the deer bed down, because their systems slow down for the winter months and they require less food. This survival strategy hasn't really been necessary this winter. The deer also seem to be staying close to the house, bedding sometimes just outside the door at night. Another anomaly.

My friend Mike (who also plows the road so skillfully and thoughtfully) says he has a few deer but his young ones are almost as big as the adults. I am glad to hear this observation because I have had a number of very small deer (some with spots in late September) during the last four years and wondered if there was some kind of problem with mothers who were birthing too late. Why I have so many whitetails is hardly a mystery.

The red foxes are also visible during the daylight hours especially now that the sun is rising so much higher in the sky, or perhaps it's the mild winter that is keeping them more active? Gray foxes appear to be absent this year. During the day I have encountered the reds on my paths when I walk them without my dogs.

There are plenty of cottontail rabbit tracks disappearing into the juniper so I am quite certain rabbits are a regular item on the fox menu come nightfall. But lately I have seen one or two foxes, most frequently, down by the brook. I began walking down to the edge of the open stream to investigate when I noticed that Red and his wife were spending time in just one particular area. I saw grouse, other birds and mouse tracks all over the place and also the slender unmistakable tracks of the mink.

When I glimpsed a mink bounding around the edge of the brook one afternoon a few days later while looking out my living room window I was delighted because even though I am always on the alert for them, catching sight of one this time of year is a challenge. Against the snow the mink stood out with his glossy rich brown coat shimmering in the late afternoon sun. I knew the soft fur was covered with oily waterproof hair. With good binoculars I could make out the face of this creature with his bountiful whiskers, pointed nose and piercing black eyes. This one's long slender willowy body was about 24 inches in length, a third of which was comprised of a long thick tail. I was not able to make out the animal's short slightly webbed feet. I already knew that at least one group inhabited the old rock pile at the edge of the vernal pool so when the red foxes seemed to be shadowing the minks' den I hoped that they wouldn't have a successful hunt because I don't know how many live here and I am very fond of these creatures.

The American Mink is native to this country; they are found throughout the United States and Canada except in very dry areas like Arizona; they belong to the weasel family. The literature states that the mink is a semi aquatic animal that spends a lot of time in water hunting prey, which doesn't quite fit with my observations of the mink that live here. Apparently they are excellent swimmers and can dive down as deep as sixteen feet. Mink hunt nocturnally but can also be seen during the day, and they are active all year.

Mating season begins in February - April depending upon location. Males and females have several partners and the female practices delayed implantation. Gestation takes about 52 days. The female will have a litter of three to six young and after the kits are weaned at about six weeks they stay with the mother until fall. This lengthy time spent with the mother suggests to me that these animals are extremely intelligent needing to acquire many skills before striking out on their own.

Minks are carnivorous animals that hunt a variety of prey including animals like rabbits and ducks that are larger than they are. They are adept at climbing trees so birds and eggs are also a part of their diet. I know for a fact how fond they are of frogs but they also catch fish and hunt squirrels but apparently do not hunt the latter around here! I admire these ferocious little hunters because they kill mercifully with one bite to the neck, unlike the trappers who hunt them for furs, letting them die a slow and painful death while caught in steel traps (snares are still made of steel cable wire). If the mink manage to attain adulthood they can live seven or eight years.

One characteristic of theirs intrigues me because I have never had any experience with it. Apparently these wily creatures also hiss and snarl and spray intruders with a foul -smelling liquid that they cannot aim accurately (they also use this scent to mark their territories). I have surprised so many mink over the years that I would think that they might be startled enough to hiss or spray, but apparently they haven't considered me to be a viable threat. In my experience animals do seem to be able to tell if humans have an intention to harm and respond accordingly.

Most of the literature says that mink are solitary but this makes no sense to me. In the summer I have startled two or three at a time which could be a mother and a couple of kits but this time of year there are so many tracks in the snow around the brook that I think it unlikely that they all could be made by one animal. Additionally, some of the tracks are slightly different in size. Because there is ample food in this particular wetland area and adequate food is one factor that drives the population, my guess is that there are a number of year round minks living around my rock pile, which is, by the way, currently peppered with mink paw prints.

Tonight, while writing this article I heard a single coyote call in the distance. Coyotes and foxes predate on mink and the foxes are already stalking my friends so I hope Mr. Coyote will not come to call!

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I see you in memories, your laugher, your song.
Yearning for you, to be here so we could dance and laugh along...
Yet your Love is here and spurs us on; gentle whispers of timelessness.
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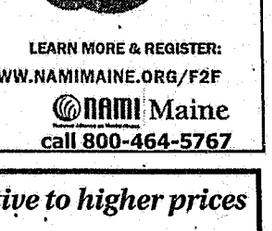

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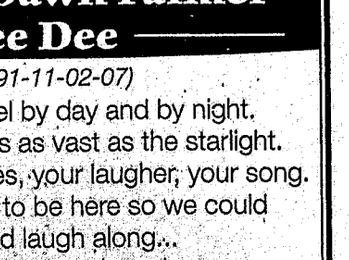

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